

## Ross Dowson archives – correspondence – Year 1980

- 01\_00      *(Found in 1980):* Statement of Purpose of Socialist Rights Defence Fund; List of supporters; photos of R.D. and lawyer Harry Kopyto
- 01\_09      Letter to Pierre Berton, re: asking for a meeting between him and RD with Harry Kopyto
- 02\_06      Letter to the McDonald Commission of Inquiry, re: 1979 RCMP raid on North American Anarchists; continued RCMP interest in Waffle and harassment of some 60 organizations
- 03\_09      Series of mailed bulletins from March to September, re: Forward Group meetings and activities
- 04\_08      +Flyer: (York U.?) “Repression of radicalism in Canada” by Ross Dowson, Forward
- 04\_25      Article in FG Ward 6 NDP file, re: answering soft cop and hard cop attacks against the union movement, the NDP and socialists
- 05\_07      Letter to Gene H., SFU, Burnaby BC, re: getting a SRDF mailing into UBC
- 05\_10      Letter to Pat B., London, England, re: reports on the case against the RCMP “dirty tricks,” was he threatened and forced to leave the country by the RCMP?
- 05\_11      Letter to Peter W., Ottawa, re: thanks for sending letter by Jack MacDonald; RD’s peek at early CP archives
- 05\_12      Letter to Editor of the Globe & Mail, re: Jimmy Higgins the pseudonym for the rank-and-file militant, fighter in Spain
- 05\_12B      Letter to Louise, in the Maritimes, re: letter to a reader of *Forward*
- 05\_12C      Letter to Gene, re: SFU results in (for SRDF mailing)
- 05\_20      Letter to Gene, Burnaby BC, re: Svend Robinson’s reaction to seeing his photo on a SRDF press release, explained and resolved
- 05\_99      ***Document: undated, May, re: Socialist Rights Defence Fund circular***, re: 10<sup>th</sup> Federal convention of NDP supports the legal suit against the RCMP; two years’ frustration in the courts; need your funds to counter unlimited RCMP funding
- 06\_02      Letter to the Editor, Toronto *Globe & Mail*, re: Trotsky’s “If America should go Communist” reveals labor as being the source of all wealth

06\_12 +Letter to Friends (LSA): Camp taxes up, payments due and received; Murray's garden producing, pump water potable

06\_29 Letter to the Editor, *Globe & Mail*, re: integrity of senior RCMP officers again put into question before Judge McDonald, beyond admission of forgery aiming to stifle legitimate dissent admitted before Judge Krever; the double standard of Canadian justice

07\_08 Letter to Anne D., Trois-Rivières, re: references to theory of coups in Trotsky, Hobsbaum, and in new Petras & Morley book on Chile

07\_18 Letter to Locals 303 and 28, U.A.W., re: thanks for donations to SRDF

08\_06 Letter to Pierre Burton, re: information about the Harry Hatfield archives at Toronto Public Library

08\_06B +SRDF letter: update on Dowson case against the RCMP, appeal for funds; from Chris Judge

08\_07 Letter to Gene H., SFU, re: lack of response to SRDF mailing at UBC

08\_08 Letter to Margaret Atwood, re: requesting support for SRDF

09\_02 Letter to the executive of Ward 6 NDP, re: protesting the newsletter ignoring his role in setting up his condominium residents' association support for the NDP

09\_04 Letter to Sean O'Flynn, OPSEU, re: seeking his endorsement of the SRDF along with other union leader militants

09\_08 Letter to Librairie L'Étincelle, re: thanking them for their support of SRDF; and to *En Lutte*, with thanks for the French translation of the mission statement of SRDF and asking them for endorsement

09\_22 Letter to Bill Walsh, soliciting his sponsorship of SRDF

09\_98 +**Document: Letter from Svend Robinson, MP**, Burnaby (BC) to Fellow New Democrats, in support of Dowson case against the RCMP; **Resolution on Justice** adopted by NDP Tenth Convention

09\_99 **SRDF flyer "Dowson vs RCMP; What's at stake!"** (a summary requested by unionists, of the issues at stake in the slander suit against the RCMP); a long list of the supporters of SRDF

10\_07 +Letter to National Library of Canada re: registration of three publications

- 11\_00      ***SRDF flyer ‘Support this cry for justice!’*** testimonials from well-known supporters and statement by Ross Dowson protesting the slander and criminal acts of the RCMP
- 11\_99      *(Undated article found in 1980, for (Secondary schools’ issues) tabloid ‘Mudpie,’ Toronto), re: protesting statement that ‘G Level’ students ‘will never be the movers and shakers of society’*
- 12\_01      Socialist Rights Defence Fund letter to Paul Copeland, re: sending him a contribution for his fight against the Canadian state police
- 12\_04      +SRDF letter to advertising dep’t, Toronto *Globe & Mail* re ad copy required
- 12\_10      Letter to the Board of Directors, York Condo Corp #75, re: removal of the childrens’ playground; discrimination against mothers and young families
- 12\_97      ***Booklet (64 pp.) published 1980 in Toronto: ‘Ross Dowson v. RCMP:’*** a Calendar of events (since 1977); Interview with RD on the background of the suit; Submissions 1 & 2 to the McDonald Commission (into RCMP investigations of the NDP); Situation worse than Watergate; Testimony at the Krever Hearings into the confidentiality of health records; RCMP targeting unions, the NDP and the nationalist left wing of the NDP; the real nature of Marxism and Leninism; a Policy submission to Commissioner Krever; RCMP stymies Krever; Krever to RCMP on ‘thought control;’ ‘Operation Checkmate’ dirty tricks against the left; the CLC condemns RCMP-labor ties; but Lawmen clear RCMP criminals; a list of supporters of the Socialist Rights Defence Fund
- 12\_98      *(Undated article found in 1980, unpublished in Forward):* obituary of Reg Bullock of Vancouver
- 12\_99      *(Undated set of proposed resolutions, found in Ward 6 NDP file, 1980), re:* Removal of Section 43 on child criminality condoning corporal punishment; urging the NDP caucus to vote against the military budget; for a moratorium on nuclear power plants; for the right of self-determination of Quebec

*Join the growing list of supporters  
of the*  
**Socialist  
Rights  
Defence  
Fund**

**Christine Judge, administrative secretary,  
Harry Paine [president of St. David's NDP], treasurer,  
50 Thorncliffe Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4K 1V5.**

## **Statement of Purpose**

We wish to indicate our support as concerned civil libertarians for the suit initiated by Mr. Ross Dowson, against the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. We understand that the purpose of this suit is to establish the legitimacy and legality of socialist thought in face of charges of "subversion" by the RCMP.

We believe that individuals have the right to express their views free of unwarranted and unsubstantiated allegations of subversion.

We believe that the charge of subversion has been used and is being used to justify intervention in the internal affairs and the harassment of such legal organizations as the New Democratic Party and the organized labour movement and we further believe that such activities threaten to whittle away at the democratic right to dissent in Canada.

Though we may not necessarily agree with the political views of Mr. Dowson, we do believe that the real test of a democracy is its ability to tolerate and respect individuals whose views may not coincide with those of the majority at any given time.

We are ticking off the appropriate box(es).

- ☐ Add my name to the list of supporters.
- ☐ Enclosed please find a contribution to the Fund to help pay the legal costs.

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*Signature*

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*Name [Please print or type]*

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*Address*

**Return this statement as soon as possible to the Socialist Rights Defence Fund, 50 Thorncliffe Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4K 1V5.**





Ross Dowson of Toronto [on left] with his lawyer Harry Kopyto. Ontario Attorney-general Roy McMurtry's stay of their attempt to lay charges against two RCMPers involved in Operation Checkmate "dirty tricks" comes before an appeal court on Nov. 26th. Dowson's \$500,000 slander suit comes before an Appeal Court on Dec. 9, 1980.



#### INTERNATIONAL

NOAM CHOMSKY, JESSICA MITFORD, LINUS PAULING, BENJAMIN SPOCK  
**AMONG CANADIAN ORGANIZATIONS:** Brampton and District Labour Council; Campbell River, Courtenay & District Labour Council; Kamloops and District Labour Council; Kenora-Keele District Labour Council; Metro Toronto Labour Council; Nelson-Trail & District Labour Council; St. John District Labour Council; Vancouver & District Labour Council; Victoria Labour Council; Canadian Union of Public Employees, Niagara District Council; Lumber & Sawmill Workers Union, Local 2693, Thunder Bay; United Auto Workers Local 303, Scarborough; United Auto Workers Amalgamated Local 28, Toronto; 10th Federal Convention of the New Democratic Party, New Brunswick NDP; Vancouver-Little Mountain NDP; Marxist-Leninist Organization of Canada in Struggle; Law Union of Ontario 1979 Conference.

#### CANADA

IAN ADAMS, journalist and author of "S—Portrait Of A Spy"  
 ROBERT ALBRITTON, professor of political science, York University.  
 R. ALDRICH, professor of music, University of Western Ontario. MARGARET ATWOOD, author. JOHN BACHER, St. Catharines. B. BANASCHEWSKI, professor of mathematics, McMaster University. RAYMOND BARBEAU, secrétaire de la fédération nationale des syndicats du bâtiment et du bois inc. DR. CAROLINE BAYARD, professor of French, McMaster University. J.-M. BEDARD, president of Regional Council No. 2, International Woodworkers of America. LOIS BEDARD, teacher. PIERRE BERTON, publicist, Kleinburg. DAWN BLACK, Coquitlam. MALCOLM BLINKOW, professor of anthropology, York University. JAMES R. BOLTON, professor of chemistry, University of Western Ontario. MARY BOYCE, lawyer. JOHN BOYD, Toronto. NEIL BOYD, professor of criminology, Simon Fraser University. ANDREW BREWIN, ex-NDP MP. DOUGLAS CAMPBELL, actor. PIERRE CAPPELO, Montreal. L. CARFAGNINI, Nova Scotia. D. CHAMPAGNE, Whitehorse. D. CHARLTON, Victoria. JEAN COMPTON, London. CARL CUNEO, professor of sociology, McMaster University. ALLAN CUNNINGHAM, professor of history, Simon Fraser University. A. DALGLEISH, Vancouver. KENNETH DANSON, lawyer. BOB DAVIS of Muddle. CHANDLER DAVIS, professor of mathematics, University of Toronto. CHARLES DAVIS, professor of religion, Concordia University. S.C. de CASTELL, professor of education, Simon Fraser University. J.P. DENNY, professor of psychology, University of Western Ontario. DR. D. DICKMAN, psychiatrist. MURRAY DOWSON, Toronto. T. PATRICK DOYLE, London. BILL DYER, lawyer, Cambridge. DR. JAMES J. ENDICOTT of The Far East Newsletter. JIM EYDT, Meyronie. NORMAN FELTES, professor of English, York University. RICHARD FIDLER, author of The RCMP, the real subversives. SAM FOX, co-director of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Unions. EDGAR Z. FRIEDENBERG, professor of education, Dalhousie University. S.R. "SANDY" GAGE, coordinator of labour studies, McMaster University. O. GAGNON, Ottawa. H.J. GLASBEEK, Professor of law, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University. JOHN GLENN, Brantford. DANNY GOLDSTICK, professor of philosophy, University of Toronto. ANDREW B. GOLLNER, professor of political science, Concordia University. CY GONICK of Canadian Dimension. ARTHUR GRAY, Coldwater. REV. DUKE T. GRAY of the Unitarian Congregation, Toronto. DONAT GRINGRAS, Sept. Isles. H. TED HALLIN, Ellett Lake. JOHN HARNEY, professor of Canadian Studies, York University. GRACE HARTMAN, president of the Canadian Union of Public Employees. JUDITH A. HELLMAN, professor of social science, York University. STEPHEN M. HELLMAN, professor of social science, York University. GARY HEWITT, professor of economics, Concordia University. ANTHONY HILTON, professor of psychology, Concordia University. HOWARD HUGGETT, Toronto. GERRY HUNNIUS, professor of social science, York University. A.J. JASZCZYK, Thornhill. C. JOHANNSEN, Toronto. L.E. JOHNSTON, Hamilton. RICHARD JOHNSTON, NDP MPP, Ontario. BRIAN D. JONES, Toronto. JOANNE KATES, Toronto. GREG KEALEY, professor of history, Dalhousie University. PAT KERWIN, director of political education, CLC. DAVID F. KETTLE, Toronto. SYLVIA KITCHING, Whitehorse. HELENE KLODAWSKY, Toronto. EUGENE KOSTYRA, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Winnipeg. MONIQUE LA-PIERRE, Montreal. MARGARET LAURENCE, author. J.T. LEMON, Toronto. JOSEPH LEVITT, professor of history, University of Ottawa. LIBRAIRIE L'ETINCELLE STAFF, Montreal. D.W. LIVINGSTONE, professor of sociology, DISE. STEPHEN A. LONG-STAFF, professor of sociology, York University. IAN LUMSDEN, professor of political science, York University. MICHAEL LYNCH, professor of English, University of Toronto. MICHAEL LYONS, executive secretary of Metro Toronto Labour Council & vice-president of Metro NDP. ANGUS MACPHEE, President of Pulp, Paper & Woodworkers Union (CCU). MICHAEL MANDEL, professor of law, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University. M. MANLEY-CASIMIR, professor of education, Simon Fraser University. EDWARD MANN, professor of sociology, York University, co-author of RCMP vs The People. GEORGE MARTELL, author. BILL MARTIN, Toronto. DICK MARTIN, president of Manitoba Federation of Labour. MICHAEL MASON, professor of history, Concordia University. REJEAN MATHIEU, Montreal. TERRY MEAGHER, secretary treasurer, OFL. G.J. & C.J. McEWAN of Affairs of the Moment. LEO MCKAY, executive secretary of Nova Scotia Federation of Labour. PETER McLAREN, author of Cries From The Corridor. DOUG MEGGISON, Halifax. JOE MESLIN, vice-president of the Cap and Millinery Workers Union. R. PETER MILROY, Toronto. MARGARET MITCHELL, NDP MP, Vancouver East. FRANCOIS MOREAU of Combat Socialiste. JOHN MORRIS, Toronto. JACK MURRAY, president of the Ontario NDP. MAX NEMNI, professeur de science politique, Laval University. V. & A. OLSON, Toronto. B.D. PALMER, professor of history, Queen's University. LEO PANICH, professor of political science, Carleton University. L. PAQUIN, Ottawa. GLEN PATTINSON, Canadian district president IUE (AFL-CIO/CLC). ELEANOR WRIGHT PELRINE, author. NORMAN PENNER, professor of political science, York University. H.C. PENTLAND, deceased, former professor of economics, University of Manitoba. DAVID PIATTI, Ottawa. J. PLOWICKI, Niagara. K. POPERT, Toronto. D. POSTLETHWAITE, Toronto. AL PURDY, poet. JAMES W. RINEHART, professor of sociology, University of Western Ontario. J. RICHARDS, Mel-tort. SATU REPO, author. EDWARD REECE, Hamilton. G. ROBERT, Montreal. CHAR-LES ROACH, lawyer. WAYNE ROBERTS of Forward. IAN ROBERTSON, Toronto. DAVID ROGERS, Ottawa. SVEND ROBINSON, NDP MP, Burnaby. COLEMAN RO-MALES, professor of sociology, York University. ELLIOT ROSE, professor of history, University of Toronto. JOE ROSENBLATT, poet. SIMON ROSENBLUM, professor of sociology, Laurentian University. JOE ROSENTHAL, artist. CLAYTON C. RUBY, lawyer. HUNTLEY SCHALLER, Regina. ROBERT SHERWOOD, Toronto. F. & I. SHOWLER, Toronto. STU SINCLAIR, Toronto. J.L. SKOBERG, NDP-MLA, Saskatchewan. DENIS SMITH of The Canadian Forum. JOSEPH M. SPINA, professor of sociology, York University. JAMES STEELE, professor of English, Carleton University. JOHN STEELE of Socialist Voice. J. STOLK, Toronto. ROSEMARY SULLIVAN, professor of English, University of Toronto. K. TAYLOR, Winnipeg. BILL TIELEMAN, Canadian University Press, Ottawa. NEIL TUDIVER, department of social work, University of Manitoba. ELAINE VAYDA, professor of social work, York University. P. WALDEN, Toronto. GILBERT WARREN, London. THOMAS WAUGH, professor and assistant director of cinema, faculty of fine arts, Concordia University. BILL WALSH, union activist & consultant. ABIE WEISFELD, Toronto. WILLIAM WEISS, professor of mathematics, University of Toronto. A.L. WERNICK, professor of sociology, Trent University. RICHARD WILBUR, professor of history, Concordia University. HEIDI WILLIAMS, London. STEPHEN WIL-LIAMS of Exile and Toronto Life. H. WOLTERS, Vermilion. JIM YARKER, Toronto. ED ZIEMBA, NDP MPP, Ontario. C.D. ZIMMERMAN, professor of English, York University.  
**ADDITIONS:** Carleton East Ontario NDP. Central Fraser Valley NDP (Abbotsford). Dufferin-Simcoe Ontario NDP. York Centre NDP. Skeena B.C. NDP. Hamilton Labour Council. Le Syndicat de Professionnaires du Gouvernement du Québec. Local 1518 Retail Clerks Union, Burnaby. B.C. Local 212 CBRT & GWU, St. Catharines. Ont. Local 15 Letter Carriers' Union of Canada, Edmonton, Alta. Prisoners Rights Group-Claire Culhane, Burnaby. B.C. ANDREW ALLEN, Toronto. K. ANDERSON, London. Ont. JUDITH BAKER, Fredericton. N.B. MICHAEL BEMAN, Toronto. JOHN BELL, Toronto. BREND-DA BOURDEAU, Ottawa, Ont. M. CLARKE, Elora, Ont. ROBERT DOYLE, Ottawa, Ont. GLEN DROVER, professor of social work, Carleton University. R. MODLICH-EVDE-MON, Toronto. J. GAZAN, Willowdale, Ont. H. & M. HINDE, Borden, Sask. J.C. & F. JAUBERT, Willowdale, Ont. H. & S. LAYCOCK, Kingston, Ont. DANIEL LOEWEN, Nepean, Ont. B. MACGREGOR, Ottawa, Ont. S. MONCTON, Elora, Ont. J.W. ORR, St. John, N.B. JOHN PARK, Toronto. I. & C. PATEL, Willowdale, Ont. JOHN PHYNE, professor of sociology, McMaster University. LIVID PERSANTI, president Local 532, Service Employees Union. HELEN RATKOVSKY, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont. M.J. RAK-IEWICZ, Toronto. SYLVAIN SIMARD, president du Parti Québécois, région Outaouais, professeur, Université d'Ottawa. MAX STANFIELD, Ottawa, Ont. SUSAN THOMPSON, Toronto. TONY VACCARO, Hamilton, Ont. W. VAN LEENHOFF, Roxboro, Que. CATH-ARINE WALKER, Quebec, Que. BOYD WOOD, Lashburn, Sask.



January 9, 1980

Dear Pierre Berton:

Enclosed is some material related to the slander suit I am pursuing with the aid of many prominent civil libertarians against the RCMP.

I would appreciate, after your examining it, if you could allocate the time to meet with my lawyer Harry Kopyto and myself at some place convenient to you.

As you will note from the December 29 Star clipping we have already filed to appeal Justice Grant's judgement. Today we are informed that the Crown has also entered an appeal. With our appeal, the support of the NDP federal convention and other breaks we think it possible to take the case onto a qualitatively higher level.

I can be contacted at 966-4554 or 366-2059 and Mr Kopyto can be contacted at 864-9323

sincerely

Ross Dowson



Ross Dowson  
40 Homewood Ave., #2311  
Toronto, Ont., M4Y 2K2

Feb. 6, 1980

McDonald Commission of Inquiry  
P.O. Box 1982  
Station B  
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. Tarte - your reference number 1000-4-R-7

I am very sorry that I am so long in responding to your letter of Nov. 3, 1979

The matter that I referred to in my press release of October 4 as evidence that "dirty tricks" are still going on is outlined in the October-November issue of North American Anarchist. My copy has been misplaced but hopefully the Ottawa Public Archives have a copy or that you can obtain one from The Anarchist-Communist Federation, P.O. Box 22, Station O, Toronto, M4B 2B0. According to an article appearing in No. 1 Vol 1 under the name Lazarus Jones on April 9, 1979 the home of an ACF sympathizer in Sault St Marie was raided by the RCMP and many documents pertaining to a conference that ACF of Canada members and sympathizers were planning to participate in in the U.S. were seized. Subsequently U.S. officials barred some or all going to the conference from Canada - presumably on the basis of information turned over to them by the RCMP. I consider that a "dirty trick."

I urged the ACF in a letter dated October 4 to submit a dossier on that experience and any others they might have had to your commission.

In his statement issued to the Ontario parliament December 9, 1977 the Honourable R. Roy McMurtry refers to a summary as ascertained by R.M. McLeod, Acting Assistant Deputy Attorney-General, in consultation with RCMP officials in Ottawa. According to this report the RCMP de-emphasized its investigation of persons alleged to be of security interest after the NDP decided to rid itself of the Waffle -- "The individuals of concern to the RCMP, having lost the legitimacy of membership in the NDP also lost interest in the Waffle (from previous comments ex-Communists and members of the LSA of which I was the leader at all pertinent times). THE RCMP CONCERN WITH THESE INDIVIDUALS WAS NOT REDUCED....." my emphasis, R.D.

Since the RCMP confessed before the Krever Commission to committing "dirty tricks" against the LSA these comments are indeed ominous and would bear careful and thorough investigation by your commission. As I have had occasion to point out the victims are seldom in a position to know that they have suffered from RCMP "dirty tricks". We did not know that the RCMP actually committed the forgery and circulation of several letters until they confessed before the commission. As you will recall the Parti Quebecois was quite unaware of the RCMP's break-in, stealing and copying of its membership lists until it came up at the Keable Inquiry hearing, years later. Your commission would appear to be in a position to examine without restriction all RCMP papers including reports of its agents involved in "dirty tricks."

The December 19 1977 Globe and Mail contains a report by Lawrence Martin of Immigration Department manuals drawn up with the advice of the RCMP, sections of which "cover from 1970 to late 1976." As Toronto civil rights lawyer Clayton Ruby



points out these documents list some 60 groups as Communist-controlled and in effect permit or authorize government bureaucrats to create second-class immigration status based on somebody's anonymous ill-informed opinion. Among the so-called "Communist -controlled organizations" listed by the RCMP are the League for Socialist Action & The Fair Play for Cuba Committee with which I have been associated. As you are probably aware I have demanded the right to appear before properly constituted authority to defend myself against the charge of being a "subversive" defined in the RCMP report to Attorney-General Roy McMurtry as "anyone who would tend to promote changes brought on by violent and undemocratic means" which would appear to be the justification for the RCMP's "dirty tricks"--- including the establishment of second class immigration status.

I hope that this information is of use to your commission. I would once again affirm that I am prepared to appear before your hearings

sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ross Dawson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail.

Ross Dawson

I would prefer that you use my personal address rather than the Socialist Rights Defence Fund address.



*(handwritten Forward Group mail bulletins)*

March 9:

Forward Group will be meeting this coming Sunday evening, March 9 at 8 pm at 121 Church. Take special note of the day and time. It is important that this meeting be well attended. As you know Ont. Left Caucus supporters will be meeting and discussing over the next weekend during the Provincial Council gathering. This will be the first real test of how we will be able to respond to the federal election campaign of the Broadbent leadership. We will need all the feed-in we can get to make this meeting beneficial to the crucial task of building a socialist left in the NDP.

See you Sunday nite.

June 6:

This Friday, June 6 at 8:15 Forward Group meets at 121 Church. We are getting ready to go to press – 1<sup>st</sup> deadline is June 9. Enclosed are names and phone numbers of persons we hope you can contact in the coming immediate period regarding a contribution to Forward Press Fund –post-dated cheques are just fine—send to Forward Publishing Association, Adelaide St. P.O. Box 778, Toronto M5C 2K1

We are headed into the Ontario NDP convention. The Left Caucus is meeting Thursday night following the Provincial Council meeting—convention opens in morning after.

Bill Martin's UAW local (GM Scarboro) contributed \$100 to the SRDF. Despite every effort before a federal court judge lawyer Kopyto failed to obtain a court injunction that would give the SRDF status at the MacDonald Commission hearing on RCMP "dirty tricks."

July 1980

Last meeting was called off due to the sudden unavailability of several comrades – we hope everyone was informed in time. We will be meeting this Friday July 25 at 8:15. By now you should have received Forward & had time to think it over. We think it is excellent to take our court case onto a higher level – what with the ad of the Socialist Rights Defence Fund & photos, and the material on Mike Lyons. We should be able to move into the unions. We have already mailed our excellent coverage on the Ont. NDP convention to the Left Caucus list. Pick up a bundle for your own use – we raised the press run considerably. This should make it easier to approach our friends and contacts for contributions that will get the fund drive rolling again. You have your leads?

August 1980

With everyone now rested up and bored to death we want to get underway again –that is—with more than the court case which is taking on a new lease on life.

We are meeting this Friday night at 121 Church St., Aug. 22 at 8:15 pm – see you

Houdaille Poland

Sept. 7 (?)

We would like to get things rolling again. The Labor Day distributions were effective both in Toronto and Hamilton – and for the first time we hit the parade in Sudbury.

This Wednesday our charges against the RCMP come before Judge Allen for decision. NDP work is moving – Dovercourt passed an excellent message to Broadbent in Poland – Ward 6 is beginning to flounder with its rotten position of Sewell and Hislop – and we must make decisions on Forward. See you Sunday afternoon at 2:30 at 121.

*(ends)*



# THE Repression of Radicalism in Canada

ROSS DOWSON  
(Editorial Board:)  
FORWARD

Wednesday 8 April 8:00 PM Kenneth Taylor Hall 704

FREE ADMISSION

THE JIMUEL BRIGGS SOCIETY

SPONSORED BY U.G.S. M.S.U. C.U.B.W.

CANADIAN STUDIES PROGRAM

1980-05May7.rtf Jan14-11

*(Handwritten letter)*

May 7/80

Gene H.  
SFU Hist Dept.  
Burnaby

Dear Gene

At long last a response to your offer – accepted immediately & with high enthusiasm – to put SRDF material into UBC

I have today mailed off to your above address 2 cartons of addressed envelopes – assorted as to faculty (a note inside says Do Not Drop – asstd to faculty.)

A big job – sincerely hope you have no trouble getting them to accept them. Just in (the) chance you do – enlist the aid of Hilda Thomas – she is at UBC – Wayne got no reply from her. Take them to the wall. There is so much money and time involved in them we would take them back here should you perchance be blocked. Although I see no reason why you should be.

Today`s paper reports the chief RCMP officer involved in the dirty tricks in Toronto against us has committed suicide following a flustering testimony at the MacDonald hearings.

All the best, Ross Dowson



Ross Dowson c/o Forward Books  
121 Church Street  
Toronto M5C 2G5

May 10, 1980

Pat Brain  
c/o Socialist Action  
58 Auckland Road  
London S.E. 19  
England

Dear Pat

Greetings and Solidarity from across the Big Pond

Alas, as you know- my incurable weakness. I seldom, if ever, find the time to write about other than political matters and more or less urgent ones to which I hope to enlist support.

As you have possibly heard the RCMP is under massive questioning these days in Canada and I and our comrades, particularly Harry Kopyto (now a lawyer) are part of the probing actions. We have launched a half million dollar slander action and from that which continues to dangle in the courts we have been carrying several other actions.


The RCMP confessed during one of these forays before a Royal Commission (Krever) to have committed a "dirty trick" against the League for Socialist Action. We subsequently pulled together other evidence of harassment for investigation by the McDonald Commission officials. Most of the commission's sessions are secret however last month they admitted to an entire operation-- Operation Checkmate--which appears to have been directed entirely against us, and in a heavily censored release to the press admitted 14 cases--on three of which they reported nothing at all.

We have been going over this cryptic information and your old friend Fred Callaghan thinks that one might involve you--it is vase 11 - which reads as follows according to the Star- "The RCMP engineered the departure from Canada of a suspected subversive by first threatening him with physical harm and then offering to pay his airline ticket home."

I don't know whether this in anyway refers to any experience you had. Even if you think it might in some way or anyway at all I would appreciate hearing from you immediately and receiving any information of any experience you may have had with the RCMP. You can be sure that I will not use such information without a clear agreement from you.

Big developments in Quebec eh! May 20 will mark a decisive turn in Canadian history.

Best regards

  
Ross Dowson

Be sure to let me know that you got this note

Ross Dowson  
#2311 40 Homewood Ave.,  
Toronto, M4Y 2K2

May 11, 1980

Peter Weinrich  
136 Aylmer Avenue  
Ottawa, K1S 2Y2

Dear Mr Weinrich;

A long delayed but nonetheless very appreciative thanks for the copy of the letter by Jack MacDonald. Anything that you happen to come across of this type I am most anxious to receive. I am just storing it now until I can make some time to really delve into the material that the RCMP seized from the CP offices here when they moved in to suppress it in the Twenties....and has been stored in the Ontario Archives. I managed to peak into a folder of this material - it was correspondence from Beckie Buhalp to the literature agent in Glace Bay. I must say that this glance gave me a totally different picture of the early communist movement from the official Buck regime's version.

I haven't yet found to time to finish up my detailed index of the Worker and that is next. Many matters are intervening- making a living, keeping my fingers ~~int~~ in the developing left in the NDP and last but not least my suit against the RCMP. No matter how relevant the past is the real process is much more interesting

sincerely

Ross Dowson

*(see July 3 correspondence)*



May 12, 1980

Ross Dowson, #2311  
40 Homewood Ave.,  
Toronto, M4Y 2K2

961-4554 or 366-2059

To the Editor of the Globe and Mail

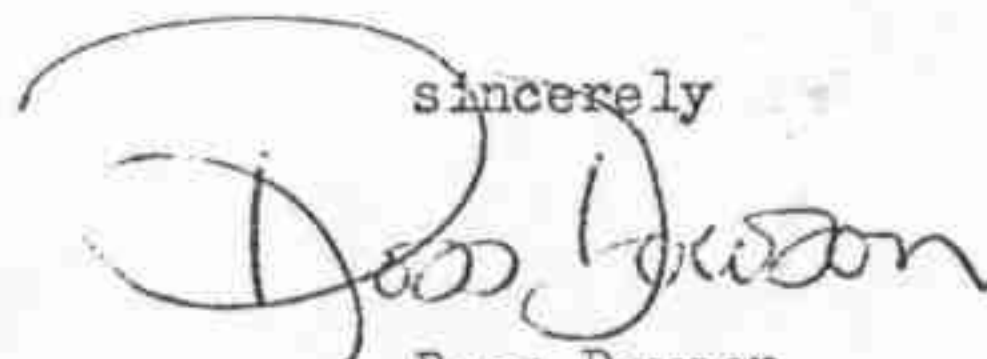
Dear Sir;

"Who is Jimmy Higgins," asks William French in his Saturday review of the book The Tall Soldier, by Manuel Alvarez? "Why did he go to Spain," where he saved the life of Alvarez? "What has happened to him", French asks, and points out - "Heroes deserve histories too."

It is possible that the identity of the Canadian who defied Ottawa's edict and went to Spain to fight in what was, contrary to popular mythology, a socialist revolution - the defeat of which, added to the collapse of the mighty German working class movement before Hitler with hardly a struggle cleared the way for the Second World War -- it is just possible that the true identity of this Canadian is being masked by a pseudonym.

In Left circles of the Thirties Jimmy Higgins was the name of the rank and filer who does all the practical, mundane work that keeps the movement functioning, while the intellectual hangers-on bask in the limelight. The once widely-read Upton Sinclair sang a song to his name in a stimulating novel enscribed with the title: Jimmy Higgins.

sincerely

A large, stylized handwritten signature that appears to read "Ross Dowson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "sincerely".

Ross Dowson

May 12, 1980  
#2311 40 Huronwood Ave  
Toronto, M4Y2K2

Maritimes  
Dear Louise;

I was very happy to receive your batik--all the more that it was your first finished one and a product of your youth in the Maritimes, your experiences here in Toronto and an apparently self-realizing return to your homeland.

Yes, I won't say that I fully appreciate it but I appreciate it nonetheless as a portrayal of certain male ideas or attitudes to woman-kind. And such vital matters are properly the subject of serious ~~examination~~ attempts at artistic creation. I hope you will continue with your artistic efforts. Why not try your hand at water colours - a most powerful quick medium of expression -- the work of Redon, Delacroix (French) and the English Turner are good examples

And with regards to the newspaper clipping--why not give me some thoughts that are yours. A new mood is in the ranks of the working class these days -- in the Ontario NDP and the cross-Canada trade union movement as shown in the just held CLC convention. I hope that you are enjoying the paper (Forward) and are following our court case. Harry Kopyto is really pushing and shoving.

all the best

Ross Dowson

*(handwritten letter)*

May 12/80

Gene H.  
History Dept SFU  
Burnaby BC

Dear Gene:

The first batch from the Simon Fraser mailing has come in.

Things must be tough financially in academic circles there

5 responses – 2 with \$10 contributions – don't want us to use their names; 3 with no contributions but want us to add their names as supporters although I don't know how they think we will be able to afford the printing costs

I.S. – Languages Literature & Linguistics \$10

B.G. – Sociology & Anthropology \$10

M. M.-C. – faculty of education

N. B.—dept of criminology

SC de C. – faculty of education

A good beginning – we will see next week.

I hope you have received the 2 cartons for UBC

All the best  
Ross Dowson

We are opening up in the unions with Svend Robinson appeal



*(Handwritten letter)*

Tuesday May 20/80  
Toronto, 121 Church St.

Burnaby  
Dear Gene

I have just heard from Harry Kopyto about an urgent phone call he got in the last few days from Svend Robinson. I would appear that somehow the letter that has been issued in his name on the H. of C. (*House of Commons*) letterhead and including a picture of him came to his attention at a public meeting out in Vancouver a few days ago. It would also appear that in some way possibly very publicly – he said he knew nothing about it – and gave the impression of publicly repudiating it.

Harry had a fraternal talk with him and has probably cleared everything up to Robinson's satisfaction. It had been originally planned to send the letter out over the joint signature of Robinson and Andrew Brewin. But we were never able to contact Brewin and on the say so of Robinson's administrative secretary it was agreed to go ahead with the one signature. It was also agreed to use the H of C letterhead and the photo of Svend. Harry had agreed to send Svend the final result but in the rush of other aspects of the case forgot to do so – so Robinson never saw the final job until shown it in Vancouver. Why he would object to the photo is beyond my comprehension.

It would appear that confronted with the letter in the specific circumstances he became somewhat unnerved. Harry tells me he is confident that it has been all cleared up and he will be phoning him again when Robinson gets back into his office.

I am writing you this note just in case you have heard anything about it (which I would very much like to hear from you about) and to assure you that while it is unfortunate this has happened, it is all on the up and up and a misunderstanding on Svend's part.

Fraternally,  
Ross D.

# SOCIALIST RIGHTS DEFENCE FUND

CHRISTINE JUDGE, Administrative Secretary  
HARRY PAINE, Pres. of St. David's NDP, Treasurer

50 Thorncliffe Ave.  
Toronto M4K 1V5

May 1980

FROM OUR GROWING  
NUMBER OF SUPPORTERS\*

Dear Fellow New Democrats:

As you may know, the delegates of the Tenth Federal Convention of the New Democratic Party adopted a motion un-animously encouraging support for the legal suit of Ross Dowson for slander against RCMP allegations that he and other Waffle supporters and members were subversive. The suit arose out of attempts by the RCMP to justify interference within the NDP in the early 1970s.

For two years, Mr. Dowson's legal efforts for his day in court have been frustrated by attempts by the RCMP to block the case from proceeding to trial. RCMP concern about the evidence of illegal acts directed against the NDP emerging through the trial process appears to be behind this attempt to block the case.

In our opinion, the Dowson case deserves to be heard. Should individuals whose views may not coincide with those of the majority at any given time be unable to defend themselves from unjustified accusations of subversion, this would be a significant blow to the democratic process.

The RCMP has appealed the case to the Federal Court of Appeal on a preliminary motion. When the case comes up to be heard early this summer, the RCMP will attempt to block the action entirely. Counsel for the RCMP has further indicated his willingness to advise that the matter be taken to the Supreme Court of Canada in the event that the appeal is lost.

Justice and democracy has its price. The RCMP have unlimited federal funds at their disposal. Mr. Dowson's lawyers are volunteering their services. But transcripts still cost thousands of dollars. The RCMP can be beaten in the courts, but it will require all of us to unite to see the case through.

We urge you to extend financial support to Mr. Dowson's efforts to obtain justice. Please forward a contribution today payable to the Socialist Rights Defence Fund, organized to provide financial backing for the suit. An injury to one is an injury to all.

Sincerely,

INTERNATIONAL:  
Naom Chomsky, Jessica Mitford,  
Linus Pauling, Benjamin Spock

CANADA  
ROBERT ALBRITTON, professor  
of political science,  
York University  
MARY BOYCE, lawyer  
ANDREW BREWIN, NDP-MP  
DOUGLAS CAMPBELL, actor  
CARL CUNEO, professor  
of sociology,  
McMaster University  
KENNETH DANSON, lawyer  
CHANDLER DAVIS, professor  
of mathematics,  
University of Toronto  
DR. D. DICKMAN, psychiatrist  
DR. JAMES J. ENDICOTT of  
The Far East Newsletter  
SAM FOX, president  
of the Labour Council of  
Metro Toronto  
EDGAR Z. FRIEDENBERG,  
professor of education,  
Dalhousie University  
DANNY GOLDSTICK, professor  
of philosophy,  
University of Toronto  
CY GONICK of  
Canadian Dimension  
REV. DUKE T. GRAY of  
the Unitarian Congregation,  
Toronto  
JOHN HARNEY, professor of  
Canadian Studies, Atkinson College,  
York University  
GRACE HARTMAN, president of  
the Canadian Union of  
Public Employees  
GREG KEALEY, professor of  
history, Dalhousie University  
PAT KERWIN, director  
of political education, CLC  
MARGARET LAURENCE, author  
D. W. LIVINGSTONE, professor  
of sociology, OISE  
IAN LUMSDEN, professor  
of political science,  
York University  
GEORGE MARTELL, author  
MICHAEL MASON, professor  
of history, Concordia University  
TERRY MEAGHER,  
secretary treasurer, OPL  
G. J. & C. J. McEWEN of  
Affairs of the Moment  
MAX NEMNI, professeur  
de science politique, Laval  
B. D. PALMER, professor  
of history, Queen's  
LEO PANICH, professor  
of political science,  
Carleton University  
GLEN PATTINSON,  
Canadian district president IUE  
(AFL-CIO/CLC)  
ELEANOR WRIGHT PELRINE,  
author  
NORMAN PENNER, professor  
of political science,  
Glendon Campus, York  
H. C. PENTLAND, professor  
of economics,  
University of Manitoba  
AL PURDY, poet  
JAMES W. RINEHART, professor  
of sociology, University of  
Western Ontario  
SATU REPO, author  
CHARLES ROACH, lawyer  
WAYNE ROBERTS of Forward  
ELLIOT ROSE, professor  
of history,  
University of Toronto  
JOE ROSENBLATT, poet  
SIMON ROSENBLUM, professor  
of sociology,  
Laurentian University  
JOE ROSENTHAL, artist  
CLAYTON C. RUBY, lawyer  
J. L. SKOBERG, NDP-MLA,  
Saskatchewan  
DENIS SMITH of  
The Canadian Forum  
NEIL TUDIVER,  
department of social work,  
University of Manitoba  
A. L. WERNICK, professor  
of sociology,  
Trinity University  
STEPHEN WILLIAMS of  
Exile and Toronto Life

\*organizations listed for  
identification only



June 2, 1980  
Ross Dowson, #2311  
40 Homewood Ave.,  
Toronto, M4Y 2K2  
366-2059 or 961-4554

Letter to the Editor

The Globe and Mail

Dear Sirs:

For all his diligence and insight, in his May 31 contribution to The Marmaid Inn, Barry Conn Hughes admits to not having come to a satisfactory resolution of his search for the answer to the question "where wealth begins."

Alas, the Maoist CPC(M-L), despite their <sup>ie</sup> pretensions, added little clarity, and certainly not through their widely displayed slogan Make The Rich Pay. Aside from the odour of envy and revenge that clings to it, it falls far short of a program and is not even suggestive of one.

In previous days of plant shutdowns and massive unemployment, in the pages of the widely circulated weekly Liberty (March 23, 1935). Tom Moore, president of the Canadian Trades and Labour Congress discussed this very question with the noted Leon Trotsky.

Trotsky thought that the accumulations of the wealthy, either in posh estates, fat bank accounts or rare baubles, were of little consequence. In his contribution titled If America Should Go Communist he suggested that they could readily be left in full possession of their extensive properties, their Rolls Royce's and their gold bricks. At the time Toronto's own George Young had won a prize from Mr Wrigley for a highly publicized long distance swim off his fabled Catalina Island. Trotsky suggested that Canada's rich might all like to join Wrigley and live out their days in opulence and luxury with any who, in now socialist America might choose ~~to~~ accompany them as acolytes or servants.

The rest of us should be content to take under our wing the productive plant with which we process the materials that house us, clothe us, feed us and allow us to project adventures into outer space, to the collective purposes of humankind.

Trotsky held that human labor is the source of all wealth. Past accumulated labor in the form of capital, and living labor applied to it in the efficient production of useful goods, is the continuation of that process -- which in the auto industry is now once again freezing up ~~again~~.

sincerely

Ross Dowson



June 12, 1980

Camp Poundmaker Incorp  
Ross Dowson, #2311  
40 Homewood Ave.,  
Toronto, M4Y 2K2

Dear friend:

I challenged the assessment notices that we received a while back upon which this years' taxes would be determined. While this year's taxable assessment remains the same as last year, next year the acreage will be corrected from 40 down to 26 acres which will probably mean a minor saving. Murray Dowson's building just missed assessment this time no doubt for the last time. However the taxes have gone up from last year's \$335.93 to the sum of 400.05. The property assessor has agreed to come up to the camp this year when we make an appointment and we will be changing the process of apportioning the total amount - for we now know what they are actually assessing three of the cottages at and will soon know what the assessment will be for the fourth. The total assessment is now on the three cottages with no allowance for the fact that TSS & ES for, instance, has more acreage.

I have proceeded to apportion the taxes as we have done up until now in the belief that you will agree that we will make the revisions next year

Last year for taxes of \$335.93 the unit was \$7.47. This year with the taxes at \$400.05 the unit works out to \$8.89. Therefore the various owners are required to pay as follows:;

<i>paid</i>	Bedard	11	\$97.79		Newbigging	1	8.89	<i>paid</i>
	Hugh	4	35.56		Byrant	1	8.89	less 2.53 over
	TSS & ES	24	213.36	<i>paid</i>	Riddell	1	8.89	payment
	Dowson M	- 1	8.89		Martin	1	8.89	<i>paid</i>
	Dowson R		8.89					\$6.36

*213.36*  
*8.89*  
*222.25*

*paid*  
*June 14/80*

The new pump is working well and now the water has been tested and approved by the Health Department. The public park on the Salmon River just south of us was having considerable work done on it this spring when we were up there--it may be supervised now and at anyrate will be much more attractive for swimming, particularly for young children. The trees are coming along well. We bought some cedars up from the bottom to the top of the lot this spring and they appear to be taking well. We have already started to clear up some of the dead elms and hope to finish painting the lodge ceiling this summer. We should probably consider getting a more operational second hand stove for the lodge this year. Murray has expanded his garden and it is still not too late for some crops if anyone wishes to cultivate some of the better land below the ridge down towards the river.

Payment of the taxes is due June 30 or we are charged penalties... it would therefore be good if you would send payment to my favor at the above address.

sincerely

*Ross Dowson*

Ross Dowson



40 HURONTARIO AVE. #211  
Toronto M4Y 2K2  
Sunday, June 29, 1980

Editor of the Globe and Mail

Dear Sir:

Very early in the unfolding revelations of the RCMP's violation of civil rights - shocking, because it is they who the state authorities have commissioned to "Uphold the Right" - we were assured that everything would be made available to the various Royal Commissions. That, after all, is what Royal Commissions are supposed to be all about.

You note in Saturday's paper that a report by a former Staff-Sergeant Alberts, which ~~he~~ he had been asked by his superiors to change because it might leave the RCMP open to criminal charges of obstruction of justice did not turn up in the RCMP Commission. <sup>files</sup> You report Judge McDonald being indignant with RCMP lawyer Lamontagne's trick of presenting a substitute for the missing document and his complaint that the commission had allowed its counsel to introduce such "surprise" evidence for which the RCMP was unprepared. But no doubt Judge McDonald was indignant that the RCMP had not itself supplied the Alberts report to the commission.

This is not the first time that the integrity of the senior RCMP officers in charge of coordinating internal files for the various commissions has been called into question. The Krever Commissions' counsel, on <sup>x</sup> the basis of the information that had been placed at his disposal, was in the process of exonerating the RCMP from violation of the security of Ontario health records when I presented him with copies of letters that had actually been turned over to the McDonald Commission at its first public hearing in Toronto. These letters were in the RCMP files and had been placed in the McDonald Commission investigators hands - but still they didn't get to the Krever Commission's counsel - until I brought them to his attention.

From there we had the RCMP confess before the Krever Commission to having actually forged the letters -- and with this the revelation of the whole Operation called "Checkmate" -- which the release of testimony before the McDonald Commission revealed was a mission to search out, harass and if possible destroy some persons and organizations completely legitimate dissident opinion in this country. Officer Yaworski admitted to actually having participated in the forgeries.

It is small wonder that my lawyer Mr. Harry Kopyto has been pressing Justice Allen to lay charges against RCMP officers who have already admitted to violating the laws in Ontario and it is surprising that this attempt is being frustrated by the federal solicitor general and the Ontario provincial Attorney-general on the grounds that the McDonald Commission has not yet released its report.

That, Mr. Lamontagne, is operating with a double standard -- one for ordinary citizens who are alleged to have violated the law and another for officers of the law who have actually admitted to a series of violations of the law. Sincerely, Ross Dowson

*(Handwritten letter)*

Forward Books

July 8/80

Anne D.,  
Trois Rivières, Que. G8Z 1P2

Dear Anne

Yes there is a chapter in Trotsky's history of the Revolution (Theories of Coups) which I would think is in any library of importance there. I assume there is one at Unsworth. You must make a point of reading this very key work on revolution.

I am enclosing a xerox of an essay by the eminent Marxist scholar Hobsbaum.. I don't have anything else – but you have some intelligent sisters who I am sure would be pleased to pursue the subject at the library here and with the aid of xerox – It would be a good experience for them.

I could Xerox articles from World Outlook/Intercontinental Press on Chile before the fall of Allende – facts led to Revolution compare to theory – *(cut off)* There are two books in the store Revolution & Counter-revolution in Chile – Sweezy & Magdoff; (and) US & Chile – Imperialism & the Overthrow of the Allende Gov't – Petras & Morley.

I am terribly tied up right now and will do it in a day or so. I do not know of any advocates of a coup there unless you are using the term loosely to describe the preparation for the insurrectional stage of a revolution (...)

Best regards,  
Ross



*(Handwritten letter)*

Socialist Rights Defence Fund  
50 Thorncliffe Ave.,  
Toronto M4K 1V5

July 18/80

Local 303 UAW and Local 28 UAW

Dear Sirs and brothers – and sisters

The SRDF was very happy to receive your splendid gesture of solidarity

Did your delegate to the Metro Labor Council get to the meeting where Mike Lyons reported on his experiences with the RCMP?

I wrote up the enclosed sheet which will give you an idea where our suit stands at this time.

Possibly the material would be useful if you have a local paper.

Fraternally,

Ross Dowson

# SOCIALIST RIGHTS DEFENCE FUND

CHRISTINE JUDGE, Administrative Secretary  
HARRY PAINE, Pres. of St. David's NDP, Treasurer

50 Thorncliffe Ave.  
Toronto M4K 1V5

August 6, 1980

FROM OUR GROWING  
NUMBER OF SUPPORTERS\*

Dear friend:

We are now coming into a new stage in the Dowson slander suit against the RCMP. On September 23 our appeal against Federal Court Judge Campbell Grant's ruling at the year's end comes before three federal court judges. Regardless of their finding it appears certain that the case will go before the Supreme Court.

Not an integral part of the slander suit but highly relevant to it is the attempt of our lawyer Harry Kopyto, with the aid of Paul Copeland and others, to lay charges against two RCMP officers for forging, uttering a forged document and circulating a false message in the process of an RCMP Operation Checkmate. This attempt to force federal and provincial authorities to implement the law will come before Justice of Peace Allen on September 3

On June 2 we lost an appeal before a federal court judge to obtain a court order granting us the right to appear before the McDonald Commission of Inquiry to question RCMPers testifying before it and to present evidence for investigation. The judge, on the appeal of the McDonald Commission's lawyer, J.J. Robinette, dismissed Kopyto's appeal and found court costs against us.

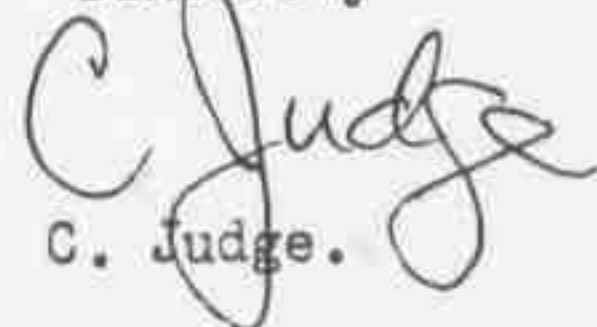
As you know, all this is a very expensive action. The RCMP has the public treasury at its disposal. While our lawyers are volunteering their services, the transcripts alone cost thousands of dollars. We need an extra effort from all of our supporters to see us through to the next stage and we are counting on you in this effort.

We have other plans to widen our base of support. We are preparing with some of our more widely known supporters an ad which we hope certain journals will be willing to carry gratis. Failing that, and depending on our success with this appeal we intend to place it in a key national daily prior to the September dates.

We enclose some of the latest material on the case for your perusal. You will be pleased to know that two of the larger Autoworkers locals have recently made a contribution, that the Federal New Brunswick NDP has contributed \$50 and that several provincial sections of the NDP will be circulating our material to their constituencies.

We are anticipating your immediate and generous response to this appeal and thank you in advance.

sincerely

  
C. Judge.

INTERNATIONAL:  
Naom Chomsky, Jessica Mitford,  
Linus Pauling, Benjamin Spock

CANADA  
ROBERT ALBRITTON, professor  
of political science,  
York University  
MARY BOYCE, lawyer  
ANDREW BREWIN, NDP-MP  
DOUGLAS CAMPBELL, actor  
CARL CUNEO, professor  
of sociology,  
McMaster University  
KENNETH DANSON, lawyer  
CHANDLER DAVIS, professor  
of mathematics,  
University of Toronto  
DR. D. DICKMAN, psychiatrist  
DR. JAMES J. ENDICOTT of  
The Far East Newsletter  
SAM FOX, president  
of the Labour Council of  
Metro Toronto  
EDGAR Z. FRIEDENBERG,  
professor of education,  
Dalhousie University  
DANNY GOLDSTICK, professor  
of philosophy,  
University of Toronto  
CY GONICK of  
Canadian Dimension  
REV. DUKE T. GRAY of  
the Unitarian Congregation,  
Toronto  
JOHN HARNEY, professor of  
Canadian Studies, Atkinson College,  
York University  
GRACE HARTMAN, president of  
the Canadian Union of  
Public Employees  
GREG KEALEY, professor of  
history, Dalhousie University  
PAT KERWIN, director  
of political education, CLC  
MARGARET LAURENCE, author  
D. W. LIVINGSTONE, professor  
of sociology, OISE  
IAN LUMSDEN, professor  
of political science,  
York University  
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secretary treasurer, OFL  
G. J. & C. J. McEWEN of  
Affairs of the Moment  
MAX NEMNI, professeur  
de sciences politiques, Laval  
B. D. PALMER, professor  
of history, Queen's  
LEO PANICH, professor  
of political science,  
Carleton University  
GLEN PATTINSON,  
Canadian district president IUE  
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ELEANOR WRIGHT PELRINE,  
author  
NORMAN PENNER, professor  
of political science,  
Glendon Campus, York  
H. C. PENTLAND, professor  
of economics,  
University of Manitoba  
AL PURDY, poet  
JAMES W. RINEHART, professor  
of sociology, University of  
Western Ontario  
SATU REPO, author  
CHARLES ROACH, lawyer  
WAYNE ROBERTS of Forward  
ELLIOT ROSE, professor  
of history,  
University of Toronto  
JOE ROSENBLATT, poet  
SIMON ROSENBLUM, professor  
of sociology,  
Laurentian University  
JOE ROSENTHAL, artist  
CLAYTON C. RUBY, lawyer  
J. L. SKOBERG, NDP-MLA,  
Saskatchewan  
DENIS SMITH of  
The Canadian Forum  
NEIL TUDIVER,  
department of social work,  
University of Manitoba  
A. L. WERNICK, professor  
of sociology,  
Trent University  
STEPHEN WILLIAMS of  
Exile and Toronto Life

\*organizations listed for  
identification only

August 6, 1980

Pierre Berton

Dear Pierre Berton

Enclosed please find a xeroxed copy of a 1905 leaflet that may be of interest to you and your family. It is one of several interesting documents that were given to me by one of Phillips Thompson's contemporaries - a Harry Hatfield. I sold the original series to the Toronto Public Library archives several months ago--they will probably be catalogued as the Hatfield collection

I put the money aside in a special account and plan to spend some of it on a pamphlet relevant to the Socialist Rights Defence Fund efforts.

I would personally like to thank you for your support of the SRDF

sincerely

Ross Dowson



From Ross Dowson  
121 Church St.  
Aug. 7/80

To Gene H.  
Hist. Dept. SFU  
Burnaby BC

Dear Gene

Not a sound, not a nibble from UBC.

I think that it can only mean that our mailing was not put into the stream, alas.

What to do? Hate to see it sit in sheer waste. Is there any way we can put the heat on them.

For instance – could you find time to put them into the departments yourself – they are all separated out – take on the delivery. Or could I ask a fellow I know in Vancouver there if he would do it – once you claimed the material from the PO there at UBC. Is there anyone we could appeal to – at UBC on faculty to put themselves out & ask that it could be circulated – or anyone among our sponsors at SFU who has a good academic connection like Neil Boyd... *(illegible)*

BC is our biggest bust. Finally both the Ontario and Sask. NDP asked us for sufficient mailing copies (Ont. 150 Sask. 65) to put it into their official mailing that goes out monthly. As you see from the ad Robinson has expressed complete satisfaction and we are mailing his financial appeal everywhere – but in BC.

As you will see from the enclosed material 2 big events are on the horizon for the case Sept. 3 and Sept. 23.

Let me know what you are thinking,

All the best,  
Ross

I see you made Forward in the exchanged ad with Labor/Le Travailleur; we are mailing (...) SRDF appeals

*(Handwritten letter)*

Socialist Rights Defence Fund

Ross Dowson #2311  
40 Homewood Ave.  
Aug. 8/80

Dear Margaret Atwood, Alliston

Ma Bell tells me that your phone number is unlisted so I must resort to the mail.

I want to ask you if you are now prepared to let us use your name in our campaign – as you will note in the enclosed material SRDF has continued to widen the number of public figures who support it.

And as you will also note from the enclosed copy of a letter dated Aug. 1 we are asking a selection of such persons to send us a short statement that we could publish in an advertisement very shortly.

I am hoping that you will give us a favourable response to the first, and possibly the second request also.

I am enclosing my phone number as Chris Judge is difficult to contact at this time of the year.

Sincerely,  
Ross Dowson



40 Homewood Ave, #2311  
Toronto, M4Y2K2  
September 2, 1980

To the executive of the Ward 6 NDP

At the Wednesday, August 27 meeting I inadvertently learned that the Ward 6 New Democrat, dated July, had been out for some while although it had not got into the hands of any party members or supporters in 40 Homewood who might distribute it there. After making arrangements to get 500 copies, (I was already loaded down with 500 of the B of E report) I came across one copy at the meeting.

Despite the fact that it contains some excellent material to bolster our municipal campaign I have decided, reluctantly, that I will not distribute this issue to residents of 40 Homewood and to tell you why I do not think it should be distributed by anyone else there either. The problem is a specific article on page three addressing itself to an action that residents there have been involved in over the past year or so. This article is at such variance to the facts, as a number of residents well known them to be, that it actually undermines any authority that other articles on key issues of concern should quite correctly have.

There are basically two things wrong with the article.

1) The article can only be understood by knowledgeable persons at 40 Homewood to be a public dissociation of the party from myself and some of the activity that I have carried on on behalf of the party and socialism there over the past several years. Several persons involved to various degrees in matters concerning the development of an adjoining apartment complex are named and quoted -- but not me, although everyone interested knows that I have played a very active role in this action: in setting up the residents' association, in organizing its meetings, in representing it city hall and municipal board meetings, in petitioning the area residents, and so forth. Furthermore, while our party now has a number of supporters and members at 40 Homewood who over the past several years I have attempted to get involved in the Rosedale, St George and Ward 6 parties' efforts in general, and in particular in 40 Homewood itself, the fact is that the chief responsibility for literature distribution, canvassing, getting out the vote etc., continues to fall on my shoulders. That is why, quite correctly I believe, I attribute a certain significance to the absence of my name.

2) While attempting to involve our party's public representative, Alderman Heap, in the residents' action against the adjoining development, the article portrays his role in a way that is well known by 40 Homewood activists to be incorrect. By the time the Residents' Association got involved both Alderman Heap but above all Alderman Sparrow and his Ward 6 Community Organization were committed to supporting the Transnation plans as they then stood. In both of their opinion the plan that the Residence Association was organized to oppose was the best possible that could be obtained. Alderman Sparrow felt committed to this view even when the Residents Association had won the support of some key Ward 6 CO activists from under him. The acceptance of the project by both Sparrow and Heap was well known among the Residents Association supporters and was a source of openly expressed dissatisfaction. The record shows that I attempted to direct this dissatisfaction away from Dan on the grounds that the association had come onto the arena late in the day, with Sparrow and Ward 6 CO already



supporting it and Alderman Heap not having the benefit of our opinion. At anyrate there is no need to give this false impression of Dan's role when our party comes through with colors flying due to the role of known NDPers in the actions agreed upon and organized by the residence association. Incidentally the article plays up a concession of a largely illusory character and takes sides in a difference that exists among NDPers in the association. It approves of the opening of Maitland Street onto Jarvis, a key arterial road in the movement of traffic in and out of downtown Toronto, and panders to the belief that Homewood will get relief, even if at the expense of the community as a whole -- a mistaken one as it is inevitable that there will be a drastic increase in traffic on Homewood. The main thrust of our petition was that the traffic crisis was largely a product of too high a density, that the project violated all concepts of rational planning, was without essential amenities, and should be scaled down.

I hope these comments will prove useful in the planning of future pieces of campaign literature.

sincerely



Ross Dowson

# SOCIALIST RIGHTS DEFENCE FUND

CHRISTINE JUDGE, Administrative Secretary  
HARRY PAINE, Pres. of St. David's NDP, Treasurer

50 Thorncliffe Ave.  
Toronto M4K 1V5

September 4, 1980

FROM OUR GROWING  
NUMBER OF SUPPORTERS\*

Sean O'Flynn, president of  
Ontario Public Service Employees Union  
1901 Yonge Street  
Toronto, Ont. M4S 2Z5

Dear Brother O'Flynn

I had the pleasure of hearing your excellent address to the Labour Day rally at Hamilton City Hall--and resolved to not only send you the enclosed material but to be so bold as to make a special appeal to you to support the SRDF.

The list of leading unionists supporting my case, as you will see from the ad on the leaflet addressed to unionists, is still all too small--even though we are just adding Dick Martin, president of the Manitoba Federation of Labour and Leo McKay, executive secretary of the Nova Scotia Federation of Labour, and others

Yes! organized labour is the only effective force for social change and speaking for myself I would be honoured if SRDF could add your name as a supporter.

thanks for your consideration

Ross Dowson

I suppose you noted in yesterdays press that the courts have stalled and ancillary action that we are trying to carry--- the laying of charges against the RCMP for violations of the law.

INTERNATIONAL  
Naom Chomsky, Jessica Mitford,  
Linus Pauling, Benjamin Spock

## CANADA

ROBERT ALDRITTON, professor  
of political science,  
York University  
MARY BOYCE, lawyer  
ANDREW BREWIN, NDP MP  
DOUGLAS CAMPBELL, actor  
CARL CUNEO, professor  
of sociology,  
McMaster University  
KENNETH DANKSON, lawyer  
CLARENCE DAVIS, professor  
of mathematics,  
University of Toronto  
DR. D. DICKMAN, psychiatrist  
DR. JAMES J. ENDICOTT of  
The Far East Newsletter  
SAM LEE, president  
of the Labour Council of  
Metro Toronto  
FINNAR Z. FRIEDBERG,  
professor of education,  
Dalhousie University  
DANNY GORDON, professor  
of philosophy,  
University of Toronto  
CY GONICK of  
Canadian Dimension  
REV. DUKE T. GRAY of  
the Unitarian Congregation,  
Toronto  
MIM HARNET, professor of  
Canadian Studies, Atkinson College,  
York University  
GRACE HARTMAN, president of  
the Canadian Union of  
Public Employees  
GREG KEALEY, professor of  
history, Dalhousie University  
PAT KIRWIN, director  
of political education, CFC  
MARGARET LAURENCE, author  
D. W. LIVINGSTONE, professor  
of sociology, CUSE  
IAN LUMSDEN, professor  
of political science,  
York University  
GEORGE MARTELL, author  
MICHAEL MASON, professor  
of history, Concordia University  
TERRY MEAGHER,  
secretary treasurer, OFL  
G. J. A. C. J. McEWEN of  
Affairs of the Moment  
MAX NEMNI, professeur  
de science politique, Laval  
R. D. PALMER, professor  
of history, Queen's  
TED PAMILL, professor  
of political science,  
Carleton University  
GLEN PATTERSON,  
Canadian district president IUF  
GAIL CHURCH  
ETANOR WRIGHT PIERRE,  
author  
NORMAN PINNER, professor  
of political science,  
Glendon Campus, York  
H. C. PENTLAND, professor  
of economics,  
University of Manitoba  
AL PURDY, poet  
JAMES W. RINEHART, professor  
of sociology, University of  
Western Ontario  
SATU REPO, author  
CHARLES ROACH, lawyer  
WAYNE ROBERTS of Forward  
ELIOT ROSE, professor  
of history,  
University of Toronto  
JOE ROSENBLATT, poet  
SIMON ROSENBLUM, professor  
of sociology,  
Laurentian University  
JOE ROSENTHAL, artist  
CLAYTON C. RUBY, lawyer  
J. J. SCHUBERT, NDP MHA,  
Saskatchewan  
DENIS SMITH of  
The Canadian Forum  
NEIL THIDIVER,  
department of social work,  
University of Manitoba  
A. J. WERNER, professor  
of sociology,  
Trent University  
STEPHEN WILLIAMS of  
Lair and Lovers Life

\*organizations listed for  
identification only



September 8, 1980

Dear Comrades : Carole, Luc, Carol, Diane, Michel and Michelene  
of Librarie L'Etincelle

Writing to you in a personal capacity I must say that your gesture of solidarity is one of the nicest that I have received. At times it seemed to me and our lawyer Harry Kopyto that we were not getting anywhere in our efforts to counteract the long vicious anti working class and anti-socialist RCMP campaign ~~against the working class of Canada~~. It is extremely difficult to push your way through the web of laws that capitalism has woven over the decades in obscuring and defending its oppressive class rule .

But despite everything I think that we have managed to get in some good licks and you can be confident that we will be getting more too. Your support strengthens our resolve.

in socialist solidarity

  
Ross Dowson

While I can and do read French, alas, I am unable to write it - and I am anxious to get this letter off to you without the delay of getting someone to translate it

We are revising our list of supporters and I am asking you if it is alright for us to list - Librarie L'Etincelle, Montreal, Staff - among the supporters - or in some other form more suitable to yourselves

En Lutte

Dear Comrades:

Many many thanks for your having translated the statement of principles and the box of The Socialist Rights Defence Fund

Thanks also for your short statement of solidarity. A welcome breath of fresh air in the oppressive and sterile sectarianism that cloakes and smothers the revolutionary left in Canada at this time.

As you have possibly noticed we have followed the practice of listing supporters associated with a paper by listing the name of the editor followed by the ~~name~~ name of the paper or publication. We would very much like to list your support. We gather that you do not list an editor of your paper. Perhaps we would record In Struggle-En Lutte, the Editors---or some other way agreeable to you.

We would appreciate a prompt reply as we are in the process of updating the list. Recent additions are the president of the Manitoba Federation of Labor, the executive secretary of the Nova Scotia Federation of Labor, Margaret Atwood and others

with socialist greetings





44 Warrander Ave #616 Sept 22/80  
Oslington

Dear Bill Walsh

I received your change of address  
thru the Socialist Rights Defence Fund  
which called to mind that I have intended  
to drop you a line for some while.

Right now we are preparing a new list of  
supporters and I would appreciate it very  
much if you would allow us to use your  
good name.

I am enclosing a copy of the old list and an  
appeal to unionists which we are presently circulating.  
Among the latest additions are the exec secy of  
the Nova Scotia Federation and the president of  
the Manitoba Federation of Labor.

Let me know right away if it is OK.

Be g thing with the building trades.  
Should give us a shake-up which we need  
badly. If ever in the vicinity drop in  
I am operating a bookstore at 121 Church St  
just S of Queen.

fraternally

Aras Dowson





HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CANADA

Dear Fellow New Democrats:

September, 1980

As you may know, the delegates of the Tenth Federal Convention of the New Democratic Party adopted a motion unanimously encouraging support for the legal suit of Ross Dowson for slander against RCMP allegations that he and other Waffle supporters and members were subversive. The suit arose out of attempts by the RCMP to justify interference within the NDP in the early 1970s.

For two years, Mr. Dowson's legal efforts for his day in court have been frustrated by attempts by the RCMP to block the case from proceeding to trial. RCMP concern about the evidence of illegal acts directed against the NDP emerging through the trial process appears to be behind this attempt to block the case.


In our opinion, the Dowson case deserves to be heard. Should individuals whose views may not coincide with those of the majority at any given time be unable to defend themselves from unjustified accusations of subversion, this would be a significant blow to the democratic process.

The RCMP has appealed the case to the Federal Court of Appeal on a preliminary motion. When the case comes up to be heard early this fall, the RCMP will attempt to block the action entirely. Counsel for the RCMP has further indicated his willingness to advise that the matter be taken to the Supreme Court of Canada in the event that the appeal is lost.

Justice and democracy has its price. The RCMP have unlimited federal funds at their disposal. Mr. Dowson's lawyers are volunteering their services. But transcripts still cost thousands of dollars. The RCMP can be beaten in the courts, but it will require all of us to unite to see the case through.

We urge you to extend financial support to Mr. Dowson's efforts to obtain justice. Please forward a contribution today payable to the Socialist Rights Defence Fund, organized to provide financial backing for the suit. An injury to one is an injury to all.

Sincerely yours,

  
Svend J. Robinson, M.P.  
Burnaby.

Send your contributions to the Social Rights Defence Fund, 50 Thorncliffe Ave., Toronto Ont. M4K 1V5.

Among the Fund's supporters are Pierre Berton, Andrew Brewin, Cy Gonick, John Harney, Grace Hartman, Margaret Laurence, George Martell and Terry Meagher.

Svend Robinson  
Spokesperson for the  
NDP on Justice and  
Solicitor-General



# Resolution on Justice

as adopted by the assembled delegates at the

## New Democratic Party

Tenth Federal Convention

Toronto November 22-25, 1979

WHEREAS the past several years have revealed that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police through its security service operations has carried on a policy of systematically harassing, frustrating, destabilizing and disrupting the activities of completely legitimate dissident and protest organizations including provincial federations of labour such as the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour, interfering in various activities including the presidential elections within the Canadian Union of Public Employees, internal affairs of the B.C. and Ontario New Democratic Parties; and

WHEREAS it is a matter of public record that officials of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police have violated a wide variety of criminal code sections including those dealing with arson, break and enter, forgery, public mischief and assault; and

WHEREAS Canada remains unique within the Commonwealth countries in retaining sections within its Official Secrets Act and Federal Court Act which effectively gives the government the right to withhold from judicial and public scrutiny almost any document of its choosing under the excuse of "national security" considerations,

1. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the new Democratic Party call for all operations of the security service of the RCMP which harass legal dissident organizations, the labour movement, the New Democratic Party and other political parties to be terminated immediately and that the full truth about such past harassment be made public,

2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Democratic Party call for the immediate prosecution of all members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who are alleged to have violated criminal law and that if their illegal actions are found to have been authorized by Solicitors-General that the rule of law apply and that such Solicitors-General not be considered immune from such prosecution,

3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Court Act be amended to remove the government's right to withhold government documents from judicial scrutiny solely on the basis of an affidavit filed by the government,

4. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Official Secrets Act be amended so that the right to public trial is affirmed and so that miscarriages of justice, such as that exemplified in the prosecution of Peter Treu, will no longer be possible,

5. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the party encourage support for a variety of efforts directed towards establishing the legitimacy of dissident, socialist and Marxist thought, including the efforts of Professor Andre Gunder Frank to obtain full travelling rights within Canada and the legal suit of Ross Dowson for slander against RCMP allegations that he and other Waffle supporters and members were subversive,

6. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Democratic Party support the implementation of a real Freedom of Information Act which includes the right of independent appeal, places the onus for proving why documents should not be released upon the government agency wishing secrecy, and provides very narrow and clearly defined exemptions,

7. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that locally elected Police Review Commissions be established and that these committees have the power to investigate complaints against the RCMP.

5. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the party encourage support for a variety of efforts directed towards establishing the legitimacy of dissident, socialist and Marxist thought, including the efforts of Professor Andre Gunder Frank to obtain full travelling rights within Canada and the legal suit of Ross Dowson for slander against RCMP allegations that he and other Waffle supporters and members were subversive,



# Dowson vs RCMP

## What's at stake!

*[The following is a response to a Toronto union activist's request for a summary, that could be readily presented to a busy meeting of his local, of the issues at stake in the \$500,000 slander suit I am waging against the RCMP.]*

What is involved in the case of Dowson vs. the RCMP is the independence of the trade union movement, free from interference by the federal police, the RCMP, and the State.

What is involved is the right of persons living in this country to hold, without harassment, political views of a dissident, anti-status quo character, and to freely act on these views in a completely legitimate way.

The Saskatchewan Federation of Labour in its brief to the McDonald Commission of Inquiry into the RCMP declared that the trade union movement has been "IMPLICITLY branded by the RCMP Security Forces as subversive." Their evidence has been reinforced by Metro Toronto Labour Council Secretary Mike Lyon's revelations, before a June assembly of the council, that the RCMP has been building a file on him since 1969 and has files on a score of other leading unionists in the Toronto area. Other delegates referred to the lengthy anti-labour record of the RCMP — to the imprisonment of the leaders of the Winnipeg General Strike of 1919 and the murder of the Estevan miners in the early Thirties.

Not IMPLICITLY, but EXPLICITLY, a socialist organization, supportive of the NDP, and everyone associated with it, including myself as a leading exponent of its views, has been branded as "subversive" by the RCMP — a grave offence under the Criminal Code. This branding took place in November 1977, when government representatives read in parliament and subsequently released to the press, a reply prepared by the then Solicitor-General Francis Fox and top RCMP officials, to a question from the Ontario NDP leader as to whether the NDP had been subject to investigation by the RCMP. By slandering myself and other Waffle supporters and NDPers as subversive, the government and the RCMP apparently hope to cover up interference in the internal affairs of organized labour's political arm, the NDP, in the early 1970's.

This interference, which involved criminal actions which the Dowson suit has helped bring to light, were revealed by the McDonald Commission of Inquiry into the RCMP through its release this Spring of "Top Secret" testimony by RCMP and government officials about "Operation Checkmate." This was part of a massive campaign of harassment, disruption and destruction waged against a wide range of completely legitimate organizations over a period from 1969 to 1973. Innumerable violations of the law were committed against as yet unnamed individuals and organizations. The targets were chosen for reasons that must sound truly ominous to trade unionists — to quote RCMP Director-General Starnes — because they were "at cross purposes with the maintenance of domestic stability."

The slander suit against the RCMP, which for reasons of law must be conducted in my personal name, is to help end the shameful situation where the federal police, under the direction and prompting of the government, can brand individuals and organizations as subversive at will, and act against them to deprive them, and by implication the Canadian people as a whole, of their civil rights and the possibility of making social changes as in their democratic wisdom they see fit to do.

It is on this basis that the Socialist Rights Defence

# The Socialist Rights Defence Fund

INVITES YOU TO IDENTIFY WITH ITS PURPOSE  
AND TO HELP FINANCE ITS EFFORTS

—Join our growing  
list of supporters\*



Pierre Berton



Grace Hartman



Ian Adams



Mike Lyons



Sven Robinson

\*Organizations listed for  
identification only

INTERNATIONAL  
NOAM CHOMSKY, JESSICA MITFORD, LINUS PAULING, BENJAMIN SPOCK  
AMONG CANADIAN ORGANIZATIONS: Brampton and District Labour Council; Campbell River, Courtenay & District Labour Council; Kamloops and District Labour Council; Kenora-Keele District Labour Council; Metro Toronto Labour Council; Nelson-Trail & District Labour Council; St. John District Labour Council; Vancouver & District Labour Council; Victoria Labour Council; Canadian Union of Public Employees, Niagara District Council; Lumber & Sawmill Workers Union, Local 2693, Thunder Bay; United Auto Workers Local 303, Scarborough; United Auto Workers Amalgamated Local 28, Toronto; 10th Federal Convention of the New Democratic Party, New Brunswick NDP; Vancouver-Little Mountain NDP; Marxist-Leninist Organization of Canada in Struggle; Law Union of Ontario 1979 Conference.

CANADA  
IAN ADAMS, journalist and author of "S—Portrait Of A Spy."  
ROBERT ALBRITTON, professor of political science, York University.  
R. ALDRICH, professor of music, University of Western Ontario. MARGARET ATWOOD, author. JOHN BACHER, St. Catharines. B. BANASCHESKI, professor of mathematics, McMaster University. RAYMOND BARBEAU, secrétaire de la Fédération nationale des syndicats du bâtiment et du bois inc. DR. CAROLINE BAYARD, professor of French, McMaster University. J.-M. BEDARD, president of Regional Council No. 2, International Woodworkers of America; LOIS BEDARD, teacher. PIERRE BERTON, publicist. Kleinburg. DAWN BLACK, Coquitlam. MALCOLM BLINKOW, professor of anthropology, York University. JAMES R. BOLTON, professor of chemistry, University of Western Ontario. MARY BOYCE, lawyer. JOHN BOYD, Toronto. NEIL BOYD, professor of criminology, Simon Fraser University. ANDREW BREWIN, ex-NDP MP. DOUGLAS CAMPBELL, actor. PIERRE CAPPICELLO, Montreal. L. CARFAGNINI, Nova Scotia. D. CHAMPAGNE, Whitehorse. D. CHARLTON, Victoria. JEAN COMPTON, London. CARL CUNEO, professor of sociology, McMaster University. ALLAN CUNNINGHAM, professor of history, Simon Fraser University. A. DALGLEISH, Vancouver. KENNETH DANSON, lawyer. BOB DAVIS of Mudpie. CHANDLER DAVIS, professor of mathematics, University of Toronto. CHARLES DAVIS, professor of religion, Concordia University. S.C. de CASTELL, professor of education, Simon Fraser University. J.P. DENNY, professor of psychology, University of Western Ontario. DR. D. DICKMAN, psychiatrist. MURRAY DOWSON, Toronto. T. PATRICK DOYLE, London. BILL DYER, lawyer, Cambridge. DR. JAMES J. ENDICOTT of The Far East Newsletter. JIM EYDT, Mayronne. NORMAN FELTES, professor of English, York University. RICHARD FIDLER, author of The RCMP, the real subversives. SAM FOX, co-director of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Unions. EDGAR Z. FRIEDENBERG, professor of education, Dalhousie University. S.R. "SANDY" GAGE, coordinator of labour studies, McMaster University. G. GAGNON, Ottawa. H.J. GLASBECK, Professor of law, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University. JOHN GLENN, Brantford. DANNY GOLDSTICK, professor of philosophy, University of Toronto. ANDREW B. GOLLNER, professor of political science, Concordia University. CY GONICK of Canadian Dimension. ARTHUR GRAY, Coldwater. REV. DUKE T. GRAY of the Unitarian Congregation, Toronto. DONAT GRINGRAS, Sept. Isles. H. TED HALLIN, Elliott Lake. JOHN HARNEY, professor of Canadian Studies, York University. GRACE HARTMAN, president of the Canadian Union of Public Employees. JUDITH A. HELLMAN, professor of social science, York University. STEPHEN M. HELLMAN, professor of social science, York University. GARY HEWITT, professor of economics, Concordia University. ANTHONY HILTON, professor of psychology, Concordia University. HOWARD HUGGETT, Toronto. GERRY HUNNIUS, professor of social science, York University. A.J. JASZCZYK, Thornhill. C. JOHANNSEN, Toronto. L.E. JOHNSTON, Hamilton. RICHARD JOHNSTON, NDP MPP, Ontario. BRIAN D. JONES, Toronto. JOANNE KATES, Toronto. GREG KEALEY, professor of history, Dalhousie University. PAT KERWIN, director of political education, C.I.C. DAVID F. KETTLER, Toronto. SYLVIA KITCHING, Whitehorse. HELENE KLODAWSKY, Toronto. EUGENE KOSTYRA, Canadian Union of Public Employees, Winnipeg. MONIQUE LAPIERRE, Montreal. MARGARET LAURENCE, author. J.T. LEMON, Toronto. JOSEPH LEVITT, professor of history, University of Ottawa. LIBRAIRIE L'ETINCELLE STAFF, Montreal. D.W. LIVINGSTONE, professor of sociology, OISE. STEPHEN A. LONGSTAFF, professor of sociology, York University. IAN LUMSDEN, professor of political science, York University. MICHAEL LYNCH, professor of English, University of Toronto. MICHAEL LYONS, executive secretary of Metro Toronto Labour Council & vice-president of Metro NDP. ANGUS MACPHEE, President of Pulp, Paper & Woodworkers Union (CCU). MICHAEL MANDEL, professor of law, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University. M. MANLEY-CASIMIR, professor of education, Simon Fraser University. EDWARD MANN, professor of sociology, York University, co-author of RCMP vs The People. GEORGE MARTELL, author. BILL MARTIN, Toronto. DICK MARTIN, president of Manitoba Federation of Labour. MICHAEL MASON, professor of history, Concordia University. REJEAN MATHIEU, Montreal. TERRY MEAGHER, secretary treasurer, O.F.L. G.J. & C.J. McEWAN of Affairs of the Moment. LEO MCKAY, executive secretary of Nova Scotia Federation of Labour. PETER McLAREN, author of Cries From The Corridor. DOUG MEGGISON, Halifax. JOE MESLIN, vice-president of the Cap and Millinery Workers Union. R. PETER MILROY, Toronto. MARGARET MITCHELL, NDP MP, Vancouver East. FRANCOIS MOREAU of Combat Socialiste. JOHN MORRIS, Toronto. JACK MURRAY, president of the Ontario NDP. MAX NEMMI, professeur de science politique, Laval University. V. & A. OLSON, Toronto. B.D. PALMER, professor of history, Queen's University. LEO PANICH, professor of political science, Carleton University. L. PAQUIN, Ottawa. GLEN PATTINSON, Canadian district president IUE (AFL-CIO/CLC). ELEANOR WRIGHT PELRINE, author. NORMAN PENNER, professor of political science, York University. H.C. PENTLAND, deceased, former professor of economics, University of Manitoba. DAVID PIATTI, Oshawa. J. PLOWICKI, Nipawan. K. POPERT, Toronto. D. POSTLETHWAITE, Toronto. AL PURDY, poet. JAMES W. RINEHART, professor of sociology, University of Western Ontario. J. RICHARDS, Melfort. SATU REPO, author. EDWARD REECE, Hamilton. G. ROBERT, Montreal. CHARLES ROACH, lawyer. WAYNE ROBERTS of Forward. IAN ROBERTSON, Toronto. DAVID ROGERS, Ottawa. SVEND ROBINSON, NDP MP, Burnaby. COLEMAN ROMALES, professor of sociology, York University. ELLIOT ROSE, professor of history, University of Toronto. JOE ROSENBLATT, poet. SIMON ROSENBLUM, professor of sociology, Laurentian University. JOE ROSENTHAL, artist. CLAYTON C. RUBY, lawyer. HUNTLEY SCHALLER, Regina. ROBERT SHERWOOD, Toronto. F. & I. SHOWLER, Toronto. STU SINCLAIR, Toronto. J.L. SKOBERG, NDP-MLA, Saskatchewan. DENIS SMITH of The Canadian Forum. JOSEPH M. SPINA, professor of sociology, York University. JAMES STEELE, professor of English, Carleton University. JOHN STEELE of Socialist Voice. J. STOLK, Toronto. ROSEMARY SULLIVAN, professor of English, University of Toronto. K. TAYLOR, Winnipeg. BILL TIELEMAN, Canadian University Press, Ottawa. NEIL TUDIVER, department of social work, University of Manitoba. ELAINE VAYDA, professor of social work, York University. P. WALDEN, Toronto. GILBERT WARREN, London. THOMAS WAUGH, professor and assistant director of cinema, faculty of fine arts, Concordia University. BILL WALSH, union activist & consultant. ABIE WEISFELD, Toronto. WILLIAM WEISS, professor of mathematics, University of Toronto. A.L. WERNICK, professor of sociology, Trent University. RICHARD WILBUR, professor of history, Concordia University. HEIDI WILLIAMS, London. STEPHEN WILLIAMS of Exile and Toronto Life. H. WOLTERS, Vermilion. JIM YARKER, Toronto. ED ZIEMBA, NDP MPP, Ontario. C.D. ZIMMERMAN, professor of English, York University.

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

We wish to indicate our support as concerned civil libertarians for the suit initiated by Mr. Ross Dowson, against the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. We understand that the purpose of this suit is to establish the legitimacy and legality of socialist thought in face of charges of "subversion" by the RCMP.

We believe that individuals have the right to express their views free of unwarranted and unsubstantiated allegations of subversion.

We believe that the charge of subversion has been used and is being used to justify intervention in the internal affairs and the harassment of such legal organizations as the New Democratic Party and the organized labor movement and we further believe that such activities threaten to whittle away at the democratic right to dissent in Canada.

Though we may not necessarily agree with the political views of Mr. Dowson, we do believe that the real test of a democracy is its ability to tolerate and respect individuals whose views may not coincide with those of the majority at any given time.

We are ticking off the appropriate box(es).



RCMP Director-General states — because they were "at cross purposes with the maintenance of domestic stability."

The slander suit against the RCMP, which for reasons of law ~~must be conducted in my personal name~~, is to help end the shameful situation where the federal police, under the direction and prompting of the government, can brand individuals and organizations as subversive at will, and act against them to deprive them, and by implication the Canadian people as a whole, of their civil rights and the possibility of making social changes as in their democratic wisdom they see fit to do.

It is on this basis that the Socialist Rights Defence Fund, supported by a growing list of Canadians, many of them prominent in political, trade union and cultural life, seeks your financial support and your solidarity.

September 1980

Ross Dowson

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We are ticking off the appropriate box(es).

- ☐ Add my name to the list of supporters  
☐ Enclosed please find a contribution to the fund to help pay the legal costs.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Return this statement as soon as possible to the Socialist Rights Defence Fund, Christine Judge, administrative secretary, Harry Paine [president of St. David's NDP], treasurer, 50 Thorncliffe Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4K 1V5.

Advertisement

Ross Dowson #2311  
40 Homewood Ave.,  
Toronto, Ont., M4Y2K2

October 7, 1980

National Library of Canada  
Collections Development Branch  
Canadian ISBN Agency  
395 Wellington  
Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0N4

Attention Paul McCormick  
re your letter of September 24, 1980

Dear Sir;

Thank you for your response to my enquiries.

I would appreciate it if you would assign me ten numbers.

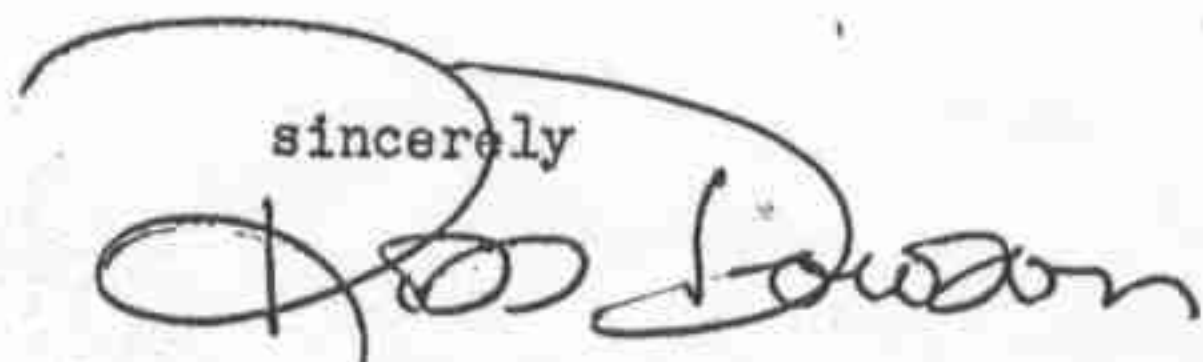
Three of these numbers would be taken up right away — one for the booklet that is now going to press — Dowson vs the RCMP. Another two would be necessary for two backlist titles that are still in print — pamphlets —

Quebec and the Canada Crisis — for a constituent assembly  
and a new Canadian constitution — Sept 1977 17 pages

and The Socialist Vanguard and the NDP — May 1976 28 pages

Since Clayton Ruby, who is writing the foreword to the pamphlet on the RCMP, is now back in the country we will be proceeding with the printing as soon as possible. We would therefore appreciate a rapid reply.

sincerely



Ross Dowson

*RD phoned + talked to Mc Cormick on the 24 Oct - he told  
that a letter was sent Oct 22 assigning a bloc of numbers*



# SUPPORT THIS CRY FOR JUSTICE!

Trade union councils affiliated to the Canadian Labour Congress from Victoria, B.C. through to St. John, N.B. are already doing so. So too are professors from university law faculties, teachers, writers, civil libertarians, workers, both skilled and unskilled, men and women from almost every walk of life — among them

**Peter McLaren, teacher and author of *Cries from the Corridor***

I support the Dowson suit because I want to ensure that our children are brought up in a world that respects justice and the rights of individuals to think and act critically and creatively without fear of being branded as subversives or looked upon as threats. Support for the Dowson suit is a crucial step in protecting our civil rights and preventing a climate of repression to be further established in this country.

**Margaret Atwood, author of *Life Before Man, Lady Oracle, etc.***

Illegal actions are illegal no matter who does them. If the police do not respect the laws of the land and the individual's right to privacy, who will?

**Clayton C. Ruby, civil libertarian and lawyer**

I hope our Courts will openly and fully investigate the actions of the RCMP concerning Ross Dowson. If political freedom is to exist in this country, we must all support the right to organize without being subjected to government terrorism.

**Gregory S. Kealey, professor and author of**

*Toronto Workers Respond to Industrial Capitalism 1867-1892*

In an allegedly democratic society any role of the police which touches on politics should concern us all. The appalling behaviour of the RCMP in the late 1960s and early 1970s, now documented in the Krever, Keable, and McDonald Commissions, went far beyond the norms of a truly democratic society. We should all be working to make sure it doesn't happen again.

**Svend Robinson, M.P., Burnaby,**

*Spokesperson for NDP on Justice and Solicitor-general*

Justice and democracy has its price. The RCMP have unlimited federal funds at their disposal. Mr. Dowson's lawyers are volunteering their services. But transcripts will cost thousands of dollars. The RCMP can be beaten in the courts, but it will require all of us to unite to see the case through. I urge you to extend financial support to Mr. Dowson's efforts to obtain justice.



Peter McLaren



Margaret Atwood



Clayton C. Ruby



Gregory S. Kealey



Svend Robinson

- ☐ Add my name to the list of supporters.
- ☐ Enclosed please find a contribution to the Fund to help pay the legal costs.

SIGNATURE .....

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

Return this statement as soon as possible to the Socialist Rights Defence Fund, Christine Judge, administrative secretary, Harry Paine [president of St. David's NDP], treasurer, 50 Thorncliffe Avenue, Toronto, M4K 1V5.



1981 Spring edition  
Journal of Canadian Labour Studies

# SUPPORT THIS CRY FOR JUSTICE!

I have been declared a subversive. So have my associates in an organization completely supportive of the New Democratic Party. So have other NDPers, unnamed but lumped together in that witch-hunt category "ex-Communists." This accusation was made in the Ontario Legislature, just three years ago, in a statement read by the attorney-general, backed up by the authority of the then solicitor-general of Canada and top RCMP officials — and circulated for reproduction in the daily press.

This word, used to justify RCMP interference in the NDP, the nature and scope of which has not been spelled out to this day, was uttered after careful consideration by persons who know full well that subversion is a grave offense under the Criminal Code.

It resulted in and justifies barn-burnings, stolen membership lists, harassment and detaining of individuals, mail openings and bug plantings, infringing on the civil rights of thousands of us. When the McDonald Commission was set up I and associates presented facts on many ominous incidents for its investigation. Nothing happened. Then suddenly, before the Ontario Royal Commission on the Security of Health Information, the RCMP confessed to having forged and circulated letters that I had submitted to it. Shortly after, in the McDonald Commission's release of highly selected and heavily censored Top Secret RCMP testimony, this appeared as Case 13, in Operation Checkmate.

In its Checkmate operations the RCMP resorted to the infamous fascist concept that, no matter their declared views and no matter their real actions, the "targets" were guilty of "dangerous thoughts", held in secret but known to those in authority. It was a massively organized assault, backed by the full resources of the state, to harass, disrupt, and if possible destroy a number of completely legitimate organizations admittedly innocent of violating even the slightest law or regulation governing this country.

The case of Dowson vs the RCMP has met with a massive blockage at every level of the courts. My half-million-dollar slander suit has so far been stymied from even reaching the preliminary stage of examination for discovery. A federal court judge dismissed one portion of it by declaring the contended statement to be privileged and not subject to suit. On December 9 my lawyers are appealing this ruling which would allow the government and the federal police to declare anyone at will to be subversive, and with complete impunity. When the McDonald Commission denied my lawyer an opportunity to appear before it, his appeal for a federal court order was turned down, with costs of \$800.

Immediately upon the RCMP's admission that it forged and distributed false information in violation of the law I urged the Ontario Attorney-General's office to lay charges. Upon its failure to do so my lawyers sought the agreement of a Toronto justice of the peace to allow the laying of charges. After 6 months of delays Attorney-general McMurtry ordered a stay of proceedings to which Judge Allen complied. My lawyers are appealing this ruling which allows the RCMP to violate the law with impunity and compromises privately initiated prosecutions under justice of peace jurisdiction.

I seek justice. I seek to clear my name and those of my associates and the hundreds of known and thousands of unknown victims of RCMP "thought control" illegalities.

Ross Dowson 11/80

- ☐ Add my name to the list of supporters.
- ☐ Enclosed please find a contribution to the Fund to help pay the legal costs.

SIGNATURE .....

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

Return this statement as soon as possible to the Socialist Rights Defence Fund, Christine Judge, administrative secretary, Harry Paine [president of St. David's NDP], treasurer, 50 Thorncliffe Avenue, Toronto, M4K 1V5.



# Now coming off the press!

## Order your copy of "DOWSON V. RCMP"

... from the introduction by Clayton C. Ruby, B.A., LL.B., LL.M.

"This book makes available to us not only the historical record of a modern attempt at the suppression of freedom of thought, but also gives us important insight into the nature of the ideas sought to be suppressed. It is important that we should know both: not only the actions of our government, but of equal importance, the ideas that our government feared. .... though this book should be read with considerable disquiet, it is important that it be read."

... from The Hon. Mr. Justice Horace Krever's comments to the RCMP following Dowson's testimony before the Ontario Royal Commission.

".... it may be that the public is not so prepared to allow the kind of thought control that is involved in the exercise of discretion that decides that a certain group, which has not been proscribed, which is not illegal, is carrying on activities which are not illegal..."

"Historically, when one looks back and takes the historical view, you don't have to be a political scientist or much of an historian to realize that at any given time in history, movements that became acceptable, including Christianity, at a certain time were considered to be subversive movements and hostile to the interests of the status quo of the state...I used Christianity as perhaps the most glaring example of what was considered to be so subversive that drastic measures had to be taken to deal with it, but in our own time and in your force's own time, the example that keeps recurring is that of the Winnipeg General Strike and the prosecution of various people, not East European Bolshevik immigrants, but people of Anglo-Saxon stock, members of the clergy, J.S. Woodsworth charged with sedition because an account, as I recall it, was simply one sentence from Isaiah.

..... I am concerned about making recommendations which would give access for legitimate police purposes to a force that also has this other responsibility under the terms of a very broad mandate, which might include within it a group that twenty-five years from now will be a very respectable political party in Canada."

from page 51

This 64-page booklet is financed by the Harry Hatfield Fund and printed by union labor at Muskox Press, Toronto.

Court No. A

In The Federal  
Appeal Court

BETWEEN:

ROSS  
DOWSON  
V.  
RCMP

A vivid episode  
in the ongoing  
struggle for  
freedom of thought  
and social justice  
in Canada.

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### ORDER FORM



1  
Dear Jim

(MUR-?) (MURPHY NOV. 1980)  
(magazine-Tabloid)

I was truly astonished to read Sam Wilson's quotation from your response to another teacher's queries as to a curriculum useful for students <sup>with</sup> ~~from~~ a working class background - "Most of your G. Level students will end up in factory and clerical jobs. They will not be the movers and shakers of society."

I appreciate the context of this statement and the merit of some of your <sup>(related comments)</sup> ~~explanation~~, aside from the kibbitz about your dream, but I think that it required a <sup>(simple)</sup> ~~repudiation~~ <sup>(or at the very least an explanation)</sup> on your part.

Upon ~~a momentary~~ reflection it is clear that just the opposite is the truth. It is the working class youth <sup>(those who if they</sup> are lucky <sup>to get a job)</sup> along with a scattering of graduate and <sup>(from working class and petit-bourgeois families who</sup> post-graduate students <sup>(if they can coverup their "overeducation")</sup> who will end up in factory and clerical jobs <sup>(that do not differ</sup> qualitatively from the demands <sup>most other</sup> of jobs ~~that are~~ annointed with a higher status in modern capitalist society. <sup>Yes</sup>

And it is the working class youth who have been, are, and will be the movers and shakers of society.

That any other class is --the children of the Blacks and the Bronfmans - is completely illusory. Basically, no matter what touch they may add--such as declaring the bankruptcy of



dear jim----2

in  
Massey-Fergusson or successfully putting the arm on the public  
treasury, or announcing their ~~accountants~~ <sup>brokers +</sup> formation of a  
conglomerate -- they are essentially just going along for the  
ride in a society, the governing laws of which are already ~~shaped~~ <sup>formed</sup>  
to serve their interests.

It is the working class, ~~which is the main force in the~~  
an illiterate laborer  
with the education of ~~an illiterate~~ on a Michelin rubber plantation  
in the Far East to the <sup>(bi-lingual)</sup> senior matriculant in a Nova Scotia  
lab, along with dissidents from the upper class who in times  
of crisis desert their class to join with them, who are the movers  
and shakers of society. *This is so for no other reason than  
their relation to the means of production as Marx so clearly  
explained in the Communist Manifesto. They are the revolutionary class.*  
~~fixxxxxx~~ The workers demand complete access to  
and seek to become the possessors of all human knowledge.

After all its perservation from nuclear disaster rests in their  
hands. It is of course correct that teachers who are class conscin  
scious--~~which is~~ the beginning of all knowelge- should impart ~~that~~  
that as best they can to their students and should attempt to shape  
the curricula as best they can to make this possible. Fortunately  
all of society is our school with capitalism itself ~~the xxxxxxxxx~~  
instructing us day-in and day-out to change things around so that the

dear jim---3

the Shakespeares and the Einsteins  
Michelangelos, the Bachs' ~~and the Dalys~~'s will cease to be

such isolated peaks signifying the capacity of humanity.

a student Ross Dowson  
Toronto

Probably ~~you~~ understand & agree ~~also~~ with all  
this — Good — then I have said it for you



# SOCIALIST RIGHTS DEFENCE FUND

CHRISTINE JUDGE, Administrative Secretary  
HARRY PAINE, Pres. of St. David's NDP, Treasurer

50 Thorncliffe Ave.  
Toronto M4K 1V5

December 1, 1980

FROM OUR GROWING  
NUMBER OF SUPPORTERS\*



Paul Copeland

Dear Paul:

I am enclosing a cheque in your favor that I have taken the liberty of drawing on the SRDF resources.

It is in appreciation of the excellent contribution that you have been making in the efforts of a growing group of us in the fight against the Canadian state police. I hope that it meets some of your incidental expenses. It is a sort of token of the warm feeling of human solidarity that we have for you.

on SRDF behalf

Ross Dowson

INTERNATIONAL:  
Naom Chomsky, Jessica Mitford,  
Linus Pauling, Benjamin Spock

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University of Manitoba  
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of sociology,  
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STEPHEN WILLIAMS of  
Exile and Toronto Life

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OUR GROWING  
NUMBER OF SUPPORTERS\*

Dec 4, 1980

Judy Cameron, display ads  
Globe and Mail

Dear Ms Cameron

Our printer advises me that he has  
never received the art work that we supplied  
you for the ad you ran on our behalf on  
November 22.

I gave you the address Action Print  
121 Church St at Queen - which is also the  
address of the bookstore I operate.

I take it that the \$1,000 exactly  
covered the cost of the ad.

Sincerely  
Ross Dawson

Mr. Dawson:

Artwork is enclosed  
My apologies for not having  
sent it earlier. J. Cameron

NATIONAL:  
Thomas, Jessica Mitford,  
Pauling, Benjamin Spock  
IDA  
ERT ALBRITTON, professor  
political science,  
York University  
TRY BOYCE, lawyer  
ADREW BREWIN, NDP-MP  
DUGLAS CAMPBELL, actor  
ARL CUNEO, professor  
of sociology,  
McMaster University  
KENNETH DANSON, lawyer  
CHANDLER DAVIS, professor  
of mathematics,  
University of Toronto  
DR. D. DICKMAN, psychiatrist  
DR. JAMES J. ENDICOTT of  
The Far East Newsletter  
SAM FOX, president  
of the Labour Council of  
Metro Toronto  
EDGAR Z. FRIEDENBERG,  
professor of education,  
Dalhousie University  
DANNY GOLDSTICK, professor  
of philosophy,  
University of Toronto  
CY GONICK of  
Canadian Dimension  
REV. DUKE T. GRAY of  
the Unitarian Congregation,  
Toronto  
JOHN HARNEY, professor of  
Canadian Studies, Atkinson College,  
York University  
GRACE HARTMAN, president of  
the Canadian Union of  
Public Employees  
GREG KEALEY, professor of  
history, Dalhousie University  
PAT KERWIN, director  
of political education, CLC  
MARGARET LAURENCE, author  
D. W. LIVINGSTONE, professor  
of sociology, OISE  
IAN LUMSDEN, professor  
of political science,  
York University  
GEORGE MARTELL, author  
MICHAEL MASON, professor  
of history, Concordia University  
TERRY MEAGHER,  
secretary treasurer, OPL  
G. J. & C. J. McEWEN of  
Affairs of the Moment  
MAX NEMNI, professeur  
de science politique, Laval  
B. D. PALMER, professor  
of history, Queen's  
LEO PANICH, professor  
of political science,  
Carleton University  
GLEN PATTINSON,  
Canadian district president IUE  
(AFL-CIO/CLC)  
ELEANOR WRIGHT PELRINE,  
author  
NORMAN PENNER, professor  
of political science,  
Glendon Campus, York  
H. C. PENTLAND, professor  
of economics,  
University of Manitoba  
AL PURDY, poet  
JAMES W. RINEHART, professor  
of sociology, University of  
Western Ontario  
SATU KEPO, author  
CHARLES ROACH, lawyer  
WAYNE ROBERTS of Forward  
ELLIOT ROSE, professor  
of history,  
University of Toronto  
JOE ROSENBLATT, poet  
SIMON ROSENBLUM, professor  
of sociology,  
Laurentian University  
JOE ROSENTHAL, artist  
CLAYTON C. RUBY, lawyer  
J. L. SKOBERG, NDP-MLA,  
Saskatchewan  
DENIS SMITH of  
The Canadian Forum  
NEIL TUDIVER,  
department of social work,  
University of Manitoba  
A. L. WERNICK, professor  
of sociology,  
Trent University  
EPHEN WILLIAMS of  
Saskatchewan Life  
Institutions listed for  
location only



Wesley B. Dowson 1911  
40 Homewood Ave.,  
Toronto, M4Y 2K2

Dec 10/80

To the Board of Directors  
York Condominium Corporation No. 75

I would like to bring to your attention some opinions on the decision made at our annual meeting that has been interpreted by our president, Doug Smith, in his communique "to remove the children's playground at the rear and grass (it) over at cost not to exceed \$3,000."

As you know this was one of many options effecting the budget. However in thinking this matter over it appears to me that this option has a qualitatively different character than the others in that it not only involves funds but it involves the quality of life at 40 Homewood in a way that the others do not. and I think that it was not handled at our meeting with due respect to this qualitative difference.

We all

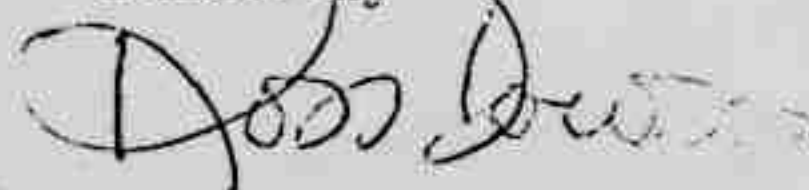
~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ bought into 40 Homewood fully aware that the common expenses would fluctuate. But there were certain facilities which at the time of purchase we must have thought to be more or less fixed features -- the saunas, the swimming pool---and I think we must add, the playground. Changes in these features and certainly their elimination impinge on the fundamental character of 40 Homewood and the terms and conditions understood to prevail at the time of purchase.

That there was a playground and facilities for children made it clear to me that among my neighbours there would be young couples and children - making 40 Homewood all the more attractive to me. Our government subsidized mortgages must have in part been designed to enable ~~xx~~ young couples with limited resources to consider coming into 40 Homewood and should they have a family provide them with such a necessary feature as a playground -- all the more essential in view of the unfortunate fact that there are no public facilities in the immediate neighborhood.

I appeal to the board to stay any actions that it may be taking to remove the playground until further consideration can be ~~considered~~ given to this matter

I would be happy to appear before the board at your convenience.

sincerely



Ross Dowson 961-4554  
366 2059

## Reg Bullock Obituary

*Undated typed article, found in 1980, not published in Forward, with note on original for Robert Simms and Joan Newbigging (ex-LSA) press obituary*

A great many people knew Reg Bullock from many different viewpoints. Reg was intensely interested in human beings, in all human beings and in every aspect of human (affairs), even though he was particularly concerned about problems and ideas of effective social action for a better world.

Reg was uniquely a product of British Columbia, a part of its rocks, its soil and waters, but above all of the many and diverse forms of its working class movement and its activities which he did much to shape.

When I first met Reg some 40 years ago he already had a splendid record as a working class agitator and organizer. But for all that outward, ongoing activity he was particularly interested in ideas. We will always see him, eyes sparkling, lips pursed, in a personal discussion, in a class or from the floor of a meeting, enthusiastically pointing out a particular idea that threw light on the body of thought which he was a tireless partisan of – Marxism and its 20<sup>th</sup> century expression, Trotskyism.

Reg's long and very full life was completely dedicated to the working class cause. There could be no better example for those now joining in and taking it forward to its realization in a socialist Canada in a socialist world.

In solidarity with his bereaved companion Ruth and all those who had the privilege of knowing and working with him.

Ross Dowson for the Forward Group



Criminal Code

HEREAS Section 43 of the Canadian Criminal Code reads :  
"Every school teacher, parent or person standing in the place of a parent is justified in using force by way of correction towards a pupil or child, as the case may be, who is under his care, if the force does not exceed what is reasonable under the circumstances": and:

HEREAS this section of the Criminal Code reflects an archaic philosophy professing values of physical discipline for the purpose of "keeping children in their place", and the phrase "what is reasonable under the circumstances" allows for such an openness of interpretation that it could be particularly harmful to children:

IT RESOLVED that the NDP urge the Law Reform Commission of Canada to recommend the removal of Section 43 from the Criminal Code of Canada.

*We are going to force  
sign prohibition to  
in a period when it is obvious that  
coercion*

## Arms Drive

HEREAS despite endless conferences, agreements and pacts between the major powers to halt, control and even roll back the arms race that continues to use up an ever increasing proportion of the world's resources, and

HEREAS in this age of the atomic bomb, the H Bomb and the Neutron Bomb, and of nuclear-powered submarines and of intercontinental ballistic missiles there is actually no defence against destruction that defies human comprehension, and

HEREAS colossal sums of money for this military materiel continue to be spent while governments cut back allocations to essential social services,

IT RESOLVED that besides opposing the Canadian government's colossal expenditures on new fighter aircraft as our members of parliament have been doing, that the NDP step up its opposition to Canada's membership in such military alliances as NATO and NORAD and that our caucus vote against the military budget as a protest against Canada's participation in the arms drive and as a demonstration to be emulated in other parts of the globe.

*Boyer says this would  
remove only news aspect*

*7 to 6 — ammendment approved*

*Boyer says in policy group  
Motion carried as amended*



# NUCLEAR

WHEREAS

~~the~~ giant multinational corporate interests ~~and their~~ governments are firmly committed to a massive and costly program of nuclear power projects, largely financed from ~~the~~ public treasury, to meet the real and perceived energy crisis, and ~~resources~~

WHEREAS

these projects are being proceeded with without the problem of the safe disposal of perilous waste byproducts being resolved, and

WHEREAS

there is ever-accumulating evidence that many ~~of the~~ projects already generating power are being operated without due ~~and~~ ~~proper~~ concern being demonstrated for the safety of those employed in them and the safety of ~~the~~ surrounding communities

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED :

(1) that the ~~NDP~~ <sup>of</sup> firmly identify itself with the forces that are protesting this reckless development and support the ~~call for~~ NDP

(a) moratorium on all projects that are not on stream, and for

(b) a stringent safety program to be developed and rigorously applied to those nuclear power projects already in operation with their being shutdown in the case of the slightest difficulty, until such time as they can be operated safely, and

(2) that in the light of the highly contradictory and strongly biased production-for-profit views of many ~~of the~~ so-called experts dealing with and deciding upon the operational safety of nuclear installations, that the ~~NDP~~ call upon the trade union movement, in particular those sectors that represent the organized workers of all the various skills and trades working in the field, to set up cross-union councils that will determine the conditions of safe operation of the nuclear power projects, and

(3) that the NDP call for a massive crash program to make safe those power projects now in operation - or if such safety cannot be achieved that the NDP call for the relegation back to the experimental stage of the development of power through the harnessing of nuclear energy and call for other sources to be rapidly experimented on and if feasible be developed.

Angela Renner

*[Signature]*



## CONFEDERATION

WHEREAS even at our founding convention the NDP recognized that Canadian Confederation was established by two nations - the French Canadian nation and the English Canadian nation - and that the French Canadians constitute a nation with a national identity and a national culture and frequently and legitimately use the word nation to describe French Canada itself, and

WHEREAS the ensuing years have witnessed an increasing perception on the part of the people of Quebec that they do constitute a nation and increasing efforts to win recognition of that fact, with all such propositions as bi-culturalism, bi-lingualism, special status And a renegotiated federalism failing to meet their aspirations, and

WHEREAS the projected referendum on sovereignty-association will be an occasion for the people of Quebec to declare their view to all,

BE IT RESOLVED that the NDP make it crystal clear that it stands firmly on the elementary democratic principle of the right of all nations to self-determination,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this commitment on the part of the NDP includes recognition of the Quebec people's right to establish a sovereign Quebec, should they decide to do so, and that we as a party in office on the provincial or federal plane are committed in advance to negotiate, to work towards the establishment of a new association which will be acceptable to both parties.

Run B - for everything

9 for - ?